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**The man who
printed \$200 million
in flawless fake bills**

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paco rabanne

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IN
2015

GQ Guide
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all the films we can't wait
to see in 2015



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Feeling left out? We've
captured the best moments
from awards season

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GQ Letter FROM THE Editor



Here's to a win and a quick buck



GQ - 15 YEARS:
March 2000
Cover no. 3

GQ moves fast
with Czech model
Daniela Pestova

Huge times ahead of us – not one but two World Cups to deal with. I say that only half in jest, because if we do find ourselves with a chance to win either the cricket or rugby world cup title, other matters will seem a little trivial on the day. It's best not to get too worked up about it though; we all know how wrong (and sometimes right) these things can go. Sports fans will identify with John Cleese's remark: 'It's not the despair... I can take the despair, it's the hope I can't stand.' Starting this month, we're going to have to lap up both. But with AB, Hash, Dale Steyn and JP Duminy (Man of the Moment, p14) around, the Proteas' chances of removing the dreaded tag look, er... hopeful.

It takes real skills to become a master forger – there's a host of microscopic details a person has to get right to be able to call himself a good scam artist. Most bank note forgers are unskilled enough not to be taken seriously, but there are those who go to it with an expertise that draws critical acclaim. One German forger called the 100-dollar bills that got him busted 'my beautiful creations'. At the other end of the scale, Andy Warhol's '200 dollar bills' sold for close to \$44 million five years ago.

This month's GQ Report by Wells Tower looks at how long-time lawbreaker Frank Bourassa became the most prolific



counterfeiter in US history – and got away with it (p94).

Did you know *weltschmerz* is on the increase? That's the feeling you get when you realise the world is not what you expected it to be – like when Eskom implements load shedding *and* price hikes. Or when AB gets out without scoring a run. **You can negate the bad *schmerz* in your life by following the very decent advice in our How to Be a Better Man guide (p57).**

Or you could become a betting man. Here's a tip: New Zealand to win the World Cup double in 2015 – cricket x rugby.

Craig Tyson

Editor, South Africa's most stylish men's magazine

Get our best graphic style tips on GQ.co.za

Contributors



Wells Tower

Writer

Pages 94 – 99

Tower graduated from Wesleyan University in Connecticut with a Masters degree in fiction writing, before releasing the critically acclaimed book *Everything Ravaged, Everything Burned* in 2009. For GQ, Tower uncovers the story of how Frank Bourassa pulled off the greatest counterfeit heist in history.



Petros Augousti

Writer

Pages 75

Augousti's trademark 'participation journalism' has earned him a place as one of GQ's more adventurous contributors. A former professional soccer manager by trade, his degree in psychology and anthropology has given him insight into the minds of sports players and the single man, as told in this issue's Valentine's Day report.



Richard Keppel-Smith

Photographer

Pages 78 – 82

As one of Cape Town's best-known photographers, Keppel-Smith's work has appeared on the pages of GQ since photos took several days to develop. His broad portfolio is a result of many years of experience, industry knowledge, unquestionable talent – and sometimes questionable happy hour humour.



Ben Watts

Photographer

Pages 84 – 92

Having studied at the Sydney College of Arts in 1985, British-born Watts began his career capturing images in Australia, shooting for Australian *Elle* and *Vogue*. His love of urban street culture led him to New York in 1995, where his client list has since grown to include the *New York Times*, *Esquire* and GQ.



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PART OF THE FUNKY BUNCH

Dear GQ,
Remember 'Good Vibrations' in the early 90s? (a number-one hit). Remember the Funky Bunch? Mark Wahlberg has come some way since his Marky Mark incarnation. Then he was a rapper turned underwear model by way of gym bunny. Actor? No one would have thought. But who can forget the movie *Boogie Nights* and his performance as a porn star named Dirk Diggler? Then as a hard bitten cop in *The Departed* and - my all time best - the underdog boxer in *The Fighter*. All of this points to the man's ambition, ability, tenacity and talents. Not to mention his complexities, contradictions and damn fine grit. All of this comes right through in GQ's excellent November feature. A finely crafted piece of writing - another example of what the mag is rightly renowned for.

And speaking of funky bunches, there's the Best-Dressed Men list too. Tell me, just where did DA L.E.S get those wooden framed specs? Hot stuff.

- Joe Rossouw

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Once you've carved out a career as cool as DA L.E.S's, you'll know exactly where to find a pair.



Instagram Access

Behind the scenes for the March issue. Follow us @gqsouthafrica



JP Duminy sports it

The captain of the Proteas T20 squad spends a moment off the pitch with our fashion team.



On the map

The lighting crew ensures that the branding is on point for GQ Man Masego 'Maps' Maponyane.



Making a racquet

We serve up the lightest, loudest activewear to give your outfit a winning edge.



Born to hike

Llama de Rey's selfie with Features and Grooming Editor Paul Sephton in Peru.

The issue by numbers

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The Savile Row fold Bring your 'A' game



1

Fold the bottom of the one leg over the bar.



2

Turn the trouser and hanger over.



3

Fold the same amount of the other leg on top.



4

Load them into your wardrobe.



WIN

A pair of denim Ray-Ban wayfarers

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TO ENTER, send us your feedback on anything you've seen in the mag or online (maximum 150 words) along with your full name and ID number. Competition ends 31/3/15. Terms and conditions apply; see pg127.




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GQ Essentials

Everything you need to know this month
• INSIDE INFO • THE GOODS • WEALTH • DEBUT

TALK • MAN OF THE MOMENT • GROOMING
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Why we rate

Felicity Jones

We're jonesing for the nerdy but nice Oxford graduate

Words by Nojan Aminosharei

Until British actress Felicity Jones shared a bed with Stephen Hawking (er, Eddie Redmayne) in *The Theory of Everything*, she only shared an alma mater with the famous physicist: Oxford. 'I guess people see me as a bit of a nerd,' says Jones, who plays the young Mrs Hawking. We asked her about undergrad days and life on set.

GQ: You filmed on a campus.

Did it feel like college?

Yeah! Although our parties were much more debauched. Like, people rolling around on top of one another on the lawn.

GQ: Time well spent?

Oh God, I didn't have a clue who I was back then. I had my fun, but I now wish I'd spent more time reading.

GQ: You met Stephen Hawking on set. Your biggest takeaway?

He's so funny. Incredibly sharp wit – something he and [my character] Jane share. A very dry sense of humour.

GQ: We read rumours that you're *Amazing Spider-Man's* Black Cat.

Being vacuum-packed into a leather suit, doing backflips? I'd love that. Can you start a petition for me? **GQ**



Miss Jones bares even more and talks romantic movies. See the video at **GQ.co.za**

DON'T CRACK UNDER PRESSURE



TAGHeuer

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TAG HEUER CARRERA CALIBRE 1887

There is a point where being a driver and an actor requires the same skills: the capacity to be extremely focused, to forget everything around you. Patrick Dempsey knows what it takes to be successful in both fields. Like TAG Heuer, he never cracks under pressure.

Leading from the middle

JP Duminy talks coming of age, banishing the 'chokers' label and leaving a legacy

Words by **Grant Shub**

It's been just over a decade since Jean-Paul Duminy debuted for South Africa in the 50-over format. By his own admission, the now acclaimed all-rounder was wet behind the ears and, at times, found it challenging to bat away the allures of night life. But boy has Duminy matured into a well-rounded cricketer and leader of men.

While his captaincy career – in the T20 format – is in its infancy, his selection as South African Cricketers' Association (SACA) president is a nod of approval from his contemporaries. 'I'm very excited about that venture,' he says. 'It's a great feather in one's cap to have been selected by your peers.'

Having been subjected to a lengthy spell on the sidelines – and various methods of treatment – owing to an obdurate knee injury, I meet an introspective man with his priorities firmly in place. 'The way I see it, a setback is an opportunity for a comeback,' he says. 'I feel really blessed in terms of what I have been able to achieve and the opportunities I have been afforded over the past decade.'

The middle-order maestro readily admits that age and experience in equal measure have taught him that talent alone cannot propel an athlete to a consistent level of performance. 'As you grow older, you get a bit wiser. I was a guy who was probably one of the laziest in the team about five years ago. It was therefore a conscious decision I made, to move forward in order to be the best I can be.'

While Duminy summarily stepped up his training regime and increased his work ethic, he credits a mental shift for moulding him into the consummate cricketer he is today. He reveals that a change in thought pattern has forged an inner confidence and nous to perform effectively under pressure.

The left-handed batsman has been described as an 'aggressive accumulator of runs' with the wherewithal to adapt his game strategy to suit various match ➤



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Tiger of Sweden shirt R2 899. **Paul Smith** trousers R3 195, tie R1 695. **Spitz** shoes (model's own)

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situations. Duminy agrees with said assessment. 'The role that I play for the Proteas is one where I have to understand the particular game situation and play accordingly. I come in at a position where we can either falter or dominate. As an individual it ultimately rests with you to identify those opportunities and go on to make the big moments count.'

With the ODI World Cup in Australasia afoot and the knock-out phase looming, from a team perspective it's hard to ignore the oversized elephant in the room. Refreshingly, and without prompting, Duminy faces up to the Proteas' World Cup curse and the unfortunate label the team has earned.

'We still have the "chokers" tag hanging over us and, as much as you want to say that it doesn't affect you as a team, it will always be in the background until we get over the line,' he admits.

I ask Duminy about what will be different this time around.

'We have a massive team culture which allows players to perform to the best of their abilities,' he says.

'If we can give the guys the freedom to play their natural games and they back themselves in the pressure situations, then hopefully we can do our supporters proud and bring back the Cup.'

2015 WORLD CUP DATES

14 Feb: Opener: New Zealand vs Sri Lanka	15 Feb: South Africa vs Zimbabwe	22 Feb: India vs South Africa	27 Feb: South Africa vs West Indies	7 Mar: Pakistan vs South Africa	18-21 Mar: The knockout stage begins Quarter-finals	24 March: First semifinal 26 Mar: Second semifinal	29 March: FINAL at the MCG in Australia
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Choked up:
Australia couldn't believe their luck at the '99 World Cup. With one run to get of four balls, SA lost it

'I was a guy who was probably one of the laziest in the team about five years ago. It was a conscious to move forward and be the best I can be'

ON GIVING BACK TO THE GAME

'The JP21 Project was launched with the aim to revive cricket in the Mitchells Plain area. There are 38 schools in Mitchells Plain and pretty much none of them were playing cricket. I believe sport is the perfect platform to keep kids active and out of the clutches of gangsterism, drugs and alcohol abuse. My ultimate objective is to leave a legacy through sport and social development.'

ON MARRIED LIFE

'I've been married to an amazing woman since 2011. Sue supports me and drives me to give of my best every day and to live a life of gratitude and fulfilment. I have discovered that when there's smooth sailing in your domestic life, it gives you the confidence to go out and play freely and confidently on the field.'



THE CAPTAIN'S CHOICE

Clothing brand:

Cotton On.
'Good value for money.'

Cologne:

Dunhill Red.

Holiday destination:

The Maldives.
'I proposed on the island.'

Music:

Hillsong.
'I enjoy the spiritual stuff.'

Stadium:

Newlands Cricket Ground.



ON HIS SENSE OF STYLE

'My fashion sense has picked up in the last year thanks mainly to **Faf du Plessis** – the sharpest dresser on the team. All my clothes now have to be tailored to the exact width and length. Skinny is obviously the in thing as is going sockless. I quite enjoy wearing Adidas sneakers and I like high-tops. I have also grown my hair longer, so in my case a hairbrush and some hair wax are my essential items.'



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The new street art

Fresh talent takes graffiti beyond the wall and spraycan

Words by Kathryn Nave

Graffiti is having a renaissance moment, thanks to a new generation of street artists treating cities as their canvas and Instagram as their gallery. 'Most of the street art we see today is shared through Instagram or Twitter and because of that, everyone is much more aware of what's possible,' says Lee Bofkin, founder of the Global Street Art project, whose website catalogues 80 000+ photos of global graffiti. This online boom has led to an explosion of new methods, with increased interest in the art form opening up legal avenues for practitioners to experiment without fear of prosecution. 'Techniques and traditions have expanded,' says Bofkin. 'It's not just spray paint and stencils, it's really unusual stuff like tiles and painting on cling film. Anything can be used.'

@globalstreetart

► The Cape Town Art Fair runs from 26 February to 1 March at the V&A. Waterfront.

Faith 47, South Africa

FAITH 47 is more than just a South African self-taught street artist. Alternating between studios, dishevelled streets and abandoned places around the world, she spreads positive messages through socio-political murals created with mixed media. In 2014 she created *Harvest* on De Waal Drive in Cape Town for the Another Light Up Project, which funds streetlights in townships. Every donation or tweet lights up LEDs on the massive public mural. Her *Study of Warwick Triangle*, right, in Durban seeks to acknowledge the presence of informal traders in the area. faith47.com



Vhils, Portugal

Alexandre Farto, aka Vhils, uses drills and explosives to blast walls in an extreme version of reverse graffiti. 'It's an archaeological process that reflects on the layers of our streets,' says Farto, 27. His native Lisbon is littered with old political murals, graffiti and posters. 'It occurred to me that if I could peel back some of these layers, fragments of the past would be exposed.'

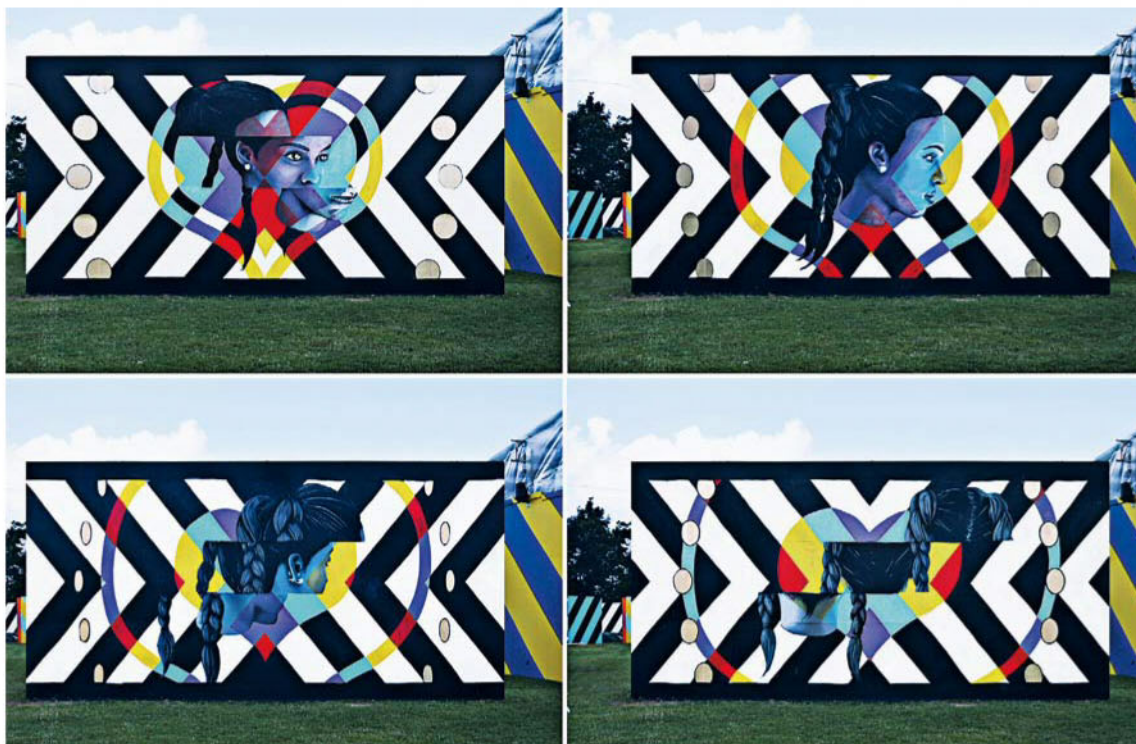
alexandrefarto.com

ADDITIONAL WORDS BY LAUREN MANUEL.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY AND JOÃO PEDRO MOREIRA

INSA, England

London-based artist INSA is a pioneer of GIF-ITI: RT-friendly video loops made by repainting artworks and photographing them in sequence. His largest piece so far, created on an eight-storey building in Taiwan, meant repainting an entire wall four times in six days. His next move is an app to bring his online audience back to the streets. 'Users direct their phone at the painted wall and watch the piece overlaid on the static painting,' he explains. 'It combines virtual and physical.'

insaland.com

**Bond/Truluv, Germany**

Once Leipzig-based artist Bond/Truluv has finished painting, his work is only half done. He then uses lighting, fluorescent paint and long-exposure photography to give the image

a unique, vibrant glow. 'I constantly try new methods, materials and techniques,' says the 29-year-old. 'Graffiti has spread out in so many directions. It's the most undefined and entertaining art form these days.'

truluv.de

**Who is Nemo's, Italy**

Exposed to the elements and council clean-up teams, graffiti lacks the longevity of more conventional artworks. For Milan-based artist Who is Nemo's, 28, that's the point. 'I paint a skeleton and then dress it with a paper layer that looks like skin,' he says. As the paper weathers, the drawings become visible – resulting in work that is constantly evolving. *Empty*, a piece at Camden Lock, used 300 recycled sheets of newspaper. 'I try to use materials that come from the street,' he says.

whoisnemos.com

Jorge Rodriguez-Gerada, Spain

Jorge Rodriguez-Gerada creates vast portraits to magnify his subjects using soil and sand guided into place by hundreds of volunteers. 'I use natural materials because of their contrast,' says the Barcelona-based artist. 'I then use GPS equipment to go large scale without losing resolution.' His piece *Wish*, in Belfast, spans 4.5 hectares and is the biggest art portrait on show in the UK.

jorgerodriguezgerada.com





Von Zipper
spectacles
R1 000



New Era cap R400



Moroccan Warehouse
kilim throw R3 500

GET IN LINE

It's time to earn your stripes



RVCA at
Zando.co.za
vest R400



New Era
belt R300



Polo
shirt
R800



Scotch & Soda
knit R1 900



GUCCI



SuperDry
shorts
R900



SuperDry
T-shirt
R1 100



Gant
socks
R295



Con Amore side table R6 995



Timex at Treger Brands watch R1 000



Paez at
Zando.co.za
espadrilles R400



wear it **#tightorwide**

G-STAR RAW
J E A N S

photography by ellen von unwerth | g-star.com



FLIP WHEN YOU STRIP

• We're animals. Which means weird smells and liquids come out of our bodies throughout the day, and our clothes are their receptacles. It's gross. So as soon as you take an item off, turn it inside out – you want to help air-dry whatever dampness you deposited and minimise potential mildewing. Sometimes it's even worth air-drying before tossing in the hamper. We're looking at you, sweaty gym shorts.



COOL IT, MAN

• Once you get around to dumping that bag o' rankness into the nearest washing machine, don't use hot water: high heat damages most fabrics. Choose the warm cycle for washing and medium heat for drying. Your favourite jammies may not be toasty when they're done, but they'll be with you for years more because of it.



RETHINK YOUR SUDS

• Your detergent should be free of dyes, synthetic fragrances and brighteners. It's like going organic, but with soap. And you may not realise it, but your whites are probably more like beige (or, if we're being honest, yellow). Throw in a half cup of bleach cleaner that returns sheets and undershirts to skeletal whiteness.

The smart man's guide to laundry

How to not get taken to the cleaners

Words by Eric Sullivan

You think you're doing the right thing, washing your threads after every wear and dry-cleaning your suit religiously. But what if you're only hurting the clothes you love? Turns out that doing laundry right sometimes means doing laundry less.



WHAT'S WITH THE TRIANGLE? A CARE-LABEL GUIDE

- Wash temperature**
One dot = cold; three dots = hot.
- Dryer temperature**
Black circle = no heat; one dot = low; three dots = high.
- Bleach**
Clear triangle = it's safe.
- Dry-clean**
Clear circle = you can.
- Iron**
One dot = low heat; three dots = high.



CLEANSE WITH CAUTION

• Dry-cleaning can be napalm for your clothes – the chemicals may actually break down delicate fibres – and should be used rarely. Follow this handy guide to ensure that most of your wardrobe isn't annihilated:

Garment	Dry-Clean?
Button-down shirt	→ Never
Jersey	→ Every five wears
Cotton suit	→ Every two months
Wool suit	→ Once a year



BREAK THE SPIN CYCLE

• In lieu of overcleaning, freshen all you can (i.e. the items that don't touch your grodier parts). Linen sprays will de-stinkify your suits, jerseys and jeans. For a more space-age (and more space-intensive) fix, check out the new Whirlpool Swash (R9 100). It doesn't technically clean, but the flat-screen-TV-sized both de-wrinkles and de-funks in minutes using special cleaning pods. Either way, you'll keep your gear looking better longer – and spend less time waiting for the dryer to finish up, already.



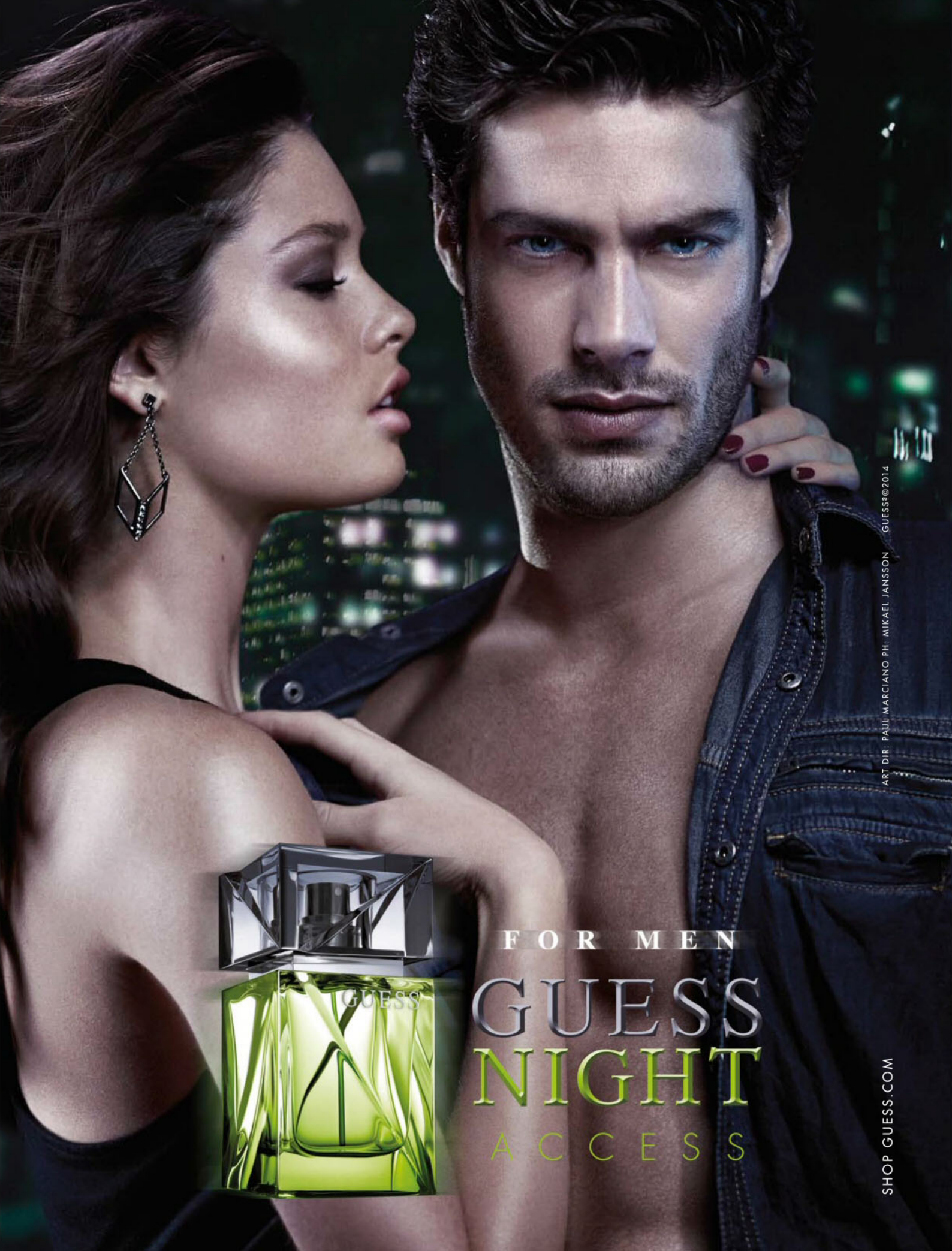
CLEAN THOSE JEANS

- There are as many urban legends about how to clean denim as there are pairs of pricey jeans. Forget all but this one – a process you should do every six months:
- 1. Fill a bath with 20cm of cold water, half a cup of colour-safe detergent and a heap of coarse salt.
- 2. Turn jeans inside out and soak for ten minutes, then gently rinse out suds.
- 3. Air-dry, putting them on after an hour if you want to hold the form.
- 4. Wear until they stink again.



HANGOVER CURE

• How you treat your clothes when you stow them is important, too. The GQ fashion closet prefers a wooden hanger complete with a flocked bar – the perfect size for everything from T-shirts to jackets.



FOR MEN

GUESS
NIGHT
ACCESS

ART DIR: PAUL MARCIANO PH: MIKAEL JANSSON GUESS®©2014

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Your four scents' worth

Coordinate your collection of fragrances

Words by Paul Sephton

Finishing up your morning rise-and-shine grooming regimen with a signature scent might leave you thinking that it dictates the smell you give off all day. Wrong.

The five products you use beforehand are all guilty of adding something to the cocktail trail you end up leaving in your wake. Think we're being pedants? Your soap, shampoo, deodorant, body lotion and any other products are likely to all have some sort of scent in them, and if you're not taking note of each, the end result could be more noxious than nice.

For starters, do a stock take of everything you're using and what collective they fit into. When it comes to buying, you're going to want to stick to the four main groups: citrus, woody, aromatic, or a complex cocktail of the three. Also, try to stick to a premium or heritage brand that has a stronger history of perfumery – they've thought things through more than you have. For everything else on your shelf – especially moisturisers and face cleansers – aim for fragrance-free products. Dermalogica and Lab Series are good brands to depend on for this.

1. FRESH



PRODUCT

Jo Malone

Lime Basil & Mandarin
body lotion (R660)

FRAGRANCE

Santa Maria Novella
Vetiver (R1 300)

Jo Malone's body lotions hold some of the best scents in the industry – owning one should be essential. The classic citrus notes, complemented by herbaceous basil, are perfectly offset by Santa Maria Novella's Vetiver cologne. The latter's citrusy undertones are infused with an earthiness and leathery amber tones once it dries. Simple on its own, but once it's paired up with the body lotion, you're left with a fresh and strongly masculine scent.

SMELLS LIKE: Summer morning in the woods.

2. WOODY



PRODUCT

Crabtree & Evelyn
Indian Sandalwood hair
and body wash (R400)

FRAGRANCE

Tom Ford
Black Orchid
(R1 575)

The sandalwood hair and body wash has citrus, lavender and vetiver undertones that tie in like Tetris blocks with the floral, chocolate and incense notes that settle with Tom Ford's Black Orchid. The result is a complex and rich layering of floral, spicy and dried-down wood notes that is both rustic and sophisticated at the same time.

SMELLS LIKE: A wild-at-heart suit and tie.



4. FOUGÈRE/AROMATIC

► **Pronunciation:** 'Fu-ZHER'

► **General accord:** Top notes of lavender with base notes of tonka bean and moss.

PRODUCT: **Aesop** Geranium Leaf
body scrub (R440)

FRAGRANCE: **Ralph Lauren** Polo
Blue (R920)

3. COMPLEX



PRODUCT

L'Occitane
Eau des Baux
shower gel (R235)

FRAGRANCE

Issey Miyake
L'Eau d'Issey Pour
Homme (R925)

L'Occitane is renowned for producing some of the best smelling products across all ranges, using naturally sourced ingredients. Eau des Baux encapsulates the fresh cypress trees in the south of France. The fresh wood smell serves as a foundation for Issey's complex cocktail, the top characters of which are citrus, aromatic and woody – an embodiment of the three main scent groups. As summer ends, this is the perfect mid-season combination.

SMELLS LIKE: A late-summer rainshower.

Geranium has a subtle rose nuance to it, with more zest and less of a sweet floral nose than rose. Scrub your way to a fresh layer of skin, then shake it up with Ralph Lauren's iconic Polo Blue. The fragrance, hailed for its fresh aquatic notes, mixes the soft floral accents with cucumber, basil and a subtle woody base note to give you something that's both fresh and fruity.

SMELLS LIKE: G&Ts on the beach.

JR JEANRICHARD 1681

a Philosophy of Life



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terrascope

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jeanrichard.com - Follow our story @JRwatches

Back to black

Score top dollar with a business essential

Words by Nick Corbett



Lacoste R895

Montblanc Meisterstück
soft grain R3 650

Tumi R2 300

Polo at Frasers R595

Gant R1 200


Burberry R3 990

Chopard racing leather R5 704

Fabiani R600

Men need places to store their hard-earned cash

other than under the mattress or in the wood-fired oven. The needs of stylish men go one further – form has to meet function and leave you looking respectable at the same time.

Enter the classic black bi-fold: a masculine staple that holds more influence than the business cards inside it. Grab the wallet that gives you enough room for your daily essentials and pay your dues like a boss. 

WHAT TO KEEP OUT

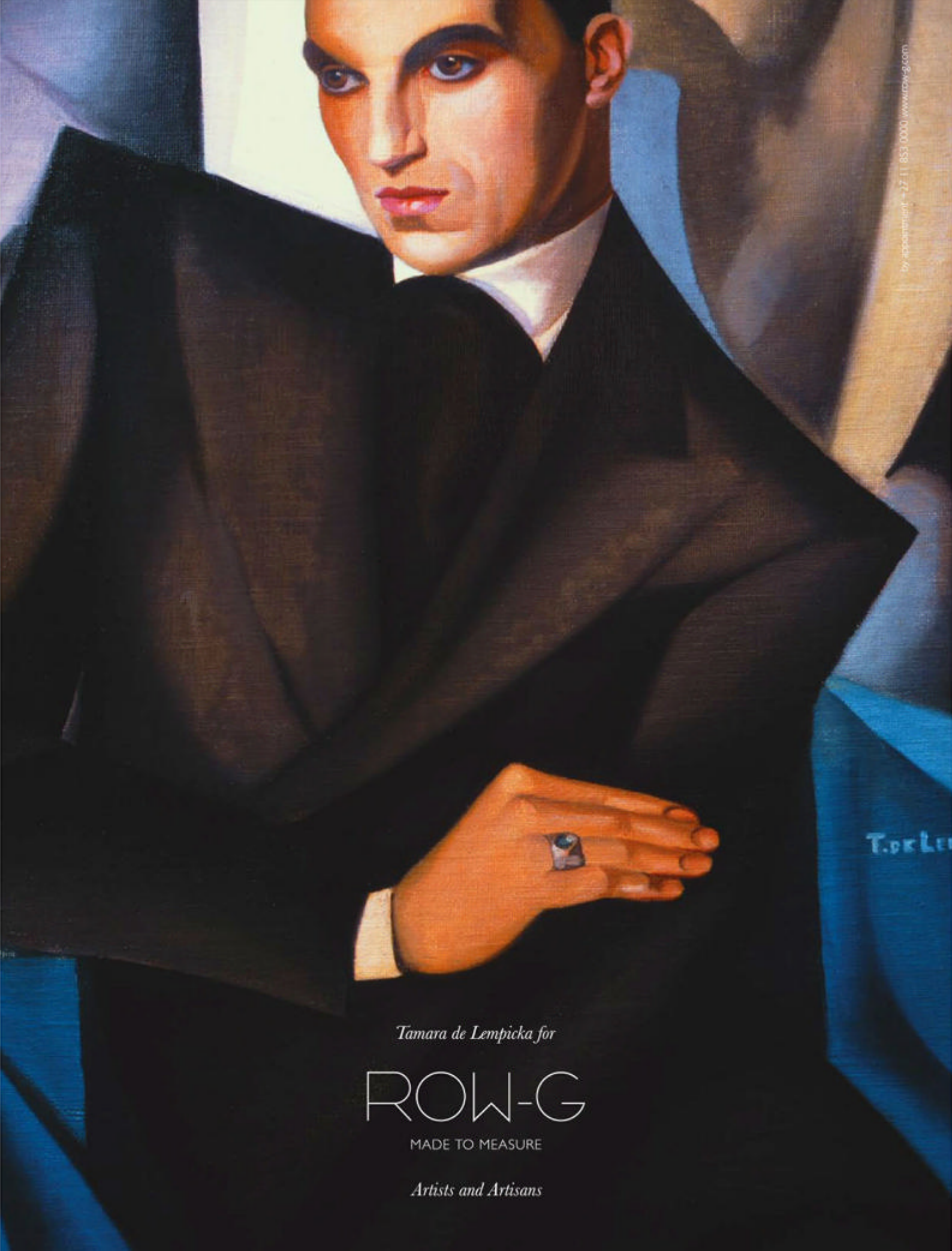
Excess coinage

Receipts
(from 2009)

Gift cards that
don't keep giving

The unused condom
from high school

That list of
passwords to
everything
in your digital life



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Spoilt for choice

With a rich history, 2 000km of coastline, vineyards, coves, islands and beaches, **Croatia** has it all

Words by **Paul Sephton**

WHETHER YOU'RE AFTER A PARTY PARADE, a beach getaway, fine dining or a cycling sojourn, the country's natural beauty plays host to every type of holiday adventure. GQ explores the best of what Croatia's historically steeped cities have to offer.



Dubrovnik

STAY Hilton Imperial

Arguably the best location in the entire city (if it's good enough for the cast of *Game of Thrones*, then it's damn well good enough for you) and with staff who have more insider knowledge than GQ, the Hilton borders the walls of the Old Town and is situated within walking distance of the city's best sights.

Ulica Marijana Blazica 2, Dubrovnik.

+385-2032-0320, hilton.com



Sun shades and stone frame ideal lunch spots



EAT Proto

Sit atop the terrace off an Old Town alleyway and feast on fresh seafood that is beautifully prepared and bursting with flavour. The oysters from Ston are a must, and you can't miss the risotto. Complement your meal with an Istrian-grown wine varietal.

Ulica Široka 1, Dubrovnik.

+385-2032-3234,

esculaprestaurants.com



The ancient Walls of Dubrovnik surround the city

SEE The Old Town

Game of Thrones fans will relish walking the walls of the Old Town, where much of the series has been filmed. Alternatively, take a sea kayak tour around the ancient coastal city or opt for an aerial view with a cable car taking you to Mount Srđ, where you can enjoy a meal at the restaurant with panoramic views over the Adriatic Sea below.



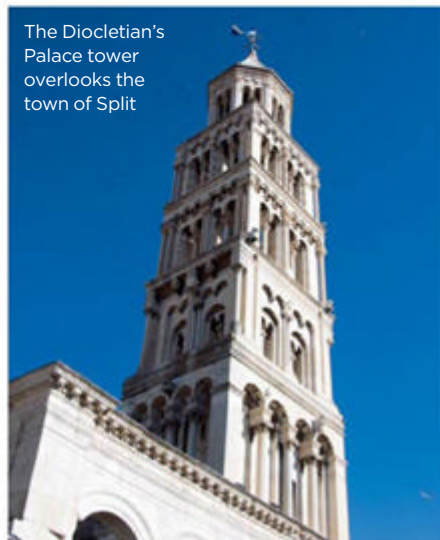
The Adriatic waters hold plenty of opportunity for fishing and sailing

Split

STAY Divota Apartment Hotel

These self-catering apartments ooze the tastefulness you wish your bachelor pad could have, outfitted with an understated luxury that stems from considered comfort and design. The terraces will practically coax you into relaxation and lazy town living.

Plinarska Ulica 75, Split. +385-2178-2700, divota.hr



The Diocletian's Palace tower overlooks the town of Split

EAT Buffet Fife

Cheap and cheerful, Fife is loved by both locals and tourists alike. Located by the sea in a small stone house on the end of the main promenade, its healthy seafood portions are cooked by traditional methods and served with carafes of wine by the friendly staff.

Trumbiceva Obala 11, Split. +385-21-345-223

SEE Walk through the old town and take in Diocletian's Palace, an architectural masterpiece built in the fourth century, before picking up an ice cream and walking the Riva (harbour) promenade, from where ferries to Hvar and other nearby islands leave. Walk on to Marjan Park and rent a bike to explore the endless beach coves loved by locals.

Natural wonders

Between beaches and inland beauties, these five options showcase some of the country's best creations

Plitvice National Park

Sixteen cool-blue turquoise lakes cascade into one another with waterfalls like you've never seen at this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Zlatni Rat, Brač Island

The poster boy of Dalmatia's beaches, this shimmering sliver of coast extends out into perfect blue waters.

Proizd Island

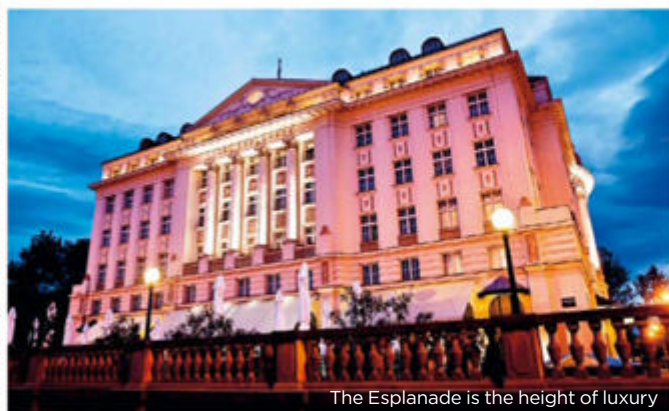
Take a water taxi to this island and swim in its undisturbed waters, or toast yourself on the waterside rocks.

Uvala Dubovica, Hvar Island

This cove is a quiet option with typically serene waters, pristine pine-lined coasts and a pebbled beach.

Kornati National Park

Take a tour from Zadar to the national park that blends 140 sparse islands into an unspoilt ocean paradise.



The Esplanade is the height of luxury

Zagreb

STAY The Esplanade Zagreb Hotel

Gatsby-style glamour meets *Grand Budapest Hotel* exteriors; the Esplanade's classic opulence feels like a dose of nostalgia from its 1925 opening as a refuge for passengers travelling the Orient Express. The hotel's walls house restaurants that demand your dining and a warmth that has played host to a long history of A-listers.

Mihanoviceva Ulica 1, 10000, Zagreb. +385-14-566-666, esplanade.hr



Old-style comfort at its best

Relish the city's local wines

EAT Trilogija

Tucked off a cobblestone street near St Mark's Cathedral, the traditional restaurant offers an ever-changing selection of daily specials based on locally sourced ingredients, accompanied by regional wines.

Kamenita Ulica 5, Zagreb.

+385-148-51394, trilogija.com

SEE Walk from King Tomislav Square next to the hotel through Zrinjevac Park up to the Zagreb Cathedral and then through to Tkalciceva, a bustling street full of bars and restaurants. From there, make your way up to St Mark's Cathedral before meandering back down to the botanical gardens via the Art Pavilion.

Three's a party Croatia's coastline is bursting with excuses to take back the night. Here, three reasons to hit the town

INMUSIC

Zagreb, June

INmusic, on the Jarun lakeshore in Zagreb, has included previous headliners The Black Keys, Arctic Monkeys, Pixies and MGMT. inmusicfestival.com

ULTRA EUROPE

Split, July

The Miami-based festival storms the local stadium with a 100 000-strong crowd quaking to the biggest names in dance music. ultraeurope.com

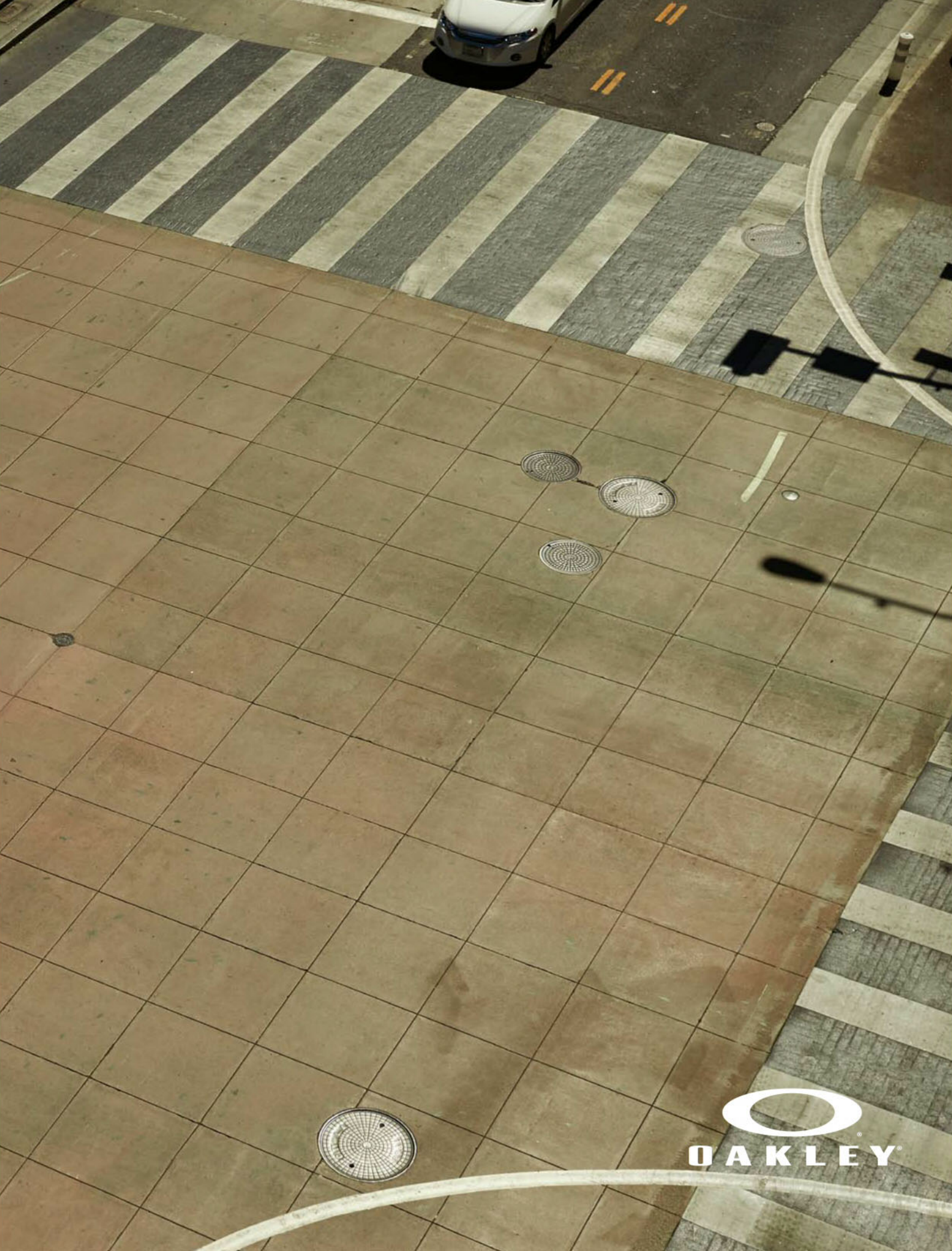
YACHT WEEK

June-September

Charter a yacht and island hop for a week from party to party, taking advantage of cool breezes and clear waters. theyachtweek.com



ONE OBSESSION
#LIVEYOURS




OAKLEY



FABRIC

FLY AND DRY Keep your cool with linen

The best way to stay cool in the sweltering African heat is by picking the right fabric. Top of the pops this summer is linen – the all-natural, all-responsive textile that not only breathes better than a Taylor Swift hit, but also has natural anti-allergenic properties that fight odour and keep you feeling fresh all day. It's an incredibly durable textile that wears better as it ages, and resists dust and fluff like one of those LifeProof iPhone cases. Stick to the pale scale of colours – cool blues and dove greys – to bolster the heat-beating look and feel. Don't layer more than two or three items. Consider the short suit as a viable option, too. And yes, linen wrinkles – live with it. **GO – JAB**

Viyella suit R8 000. **Gant** shirt R1 795. **Jigsaw** shirt R1 100.
Tom Ford at SDM Eyewear spectacles R4 875. **Bronx** at
 Jordan Footwear shoes R600

Boss at Grays blazer
 R19 995. **Gap** at
 Stuttards shirt
 R800. **Topman** shorts
 R580. **Fabiani** scarf
 R900, belt R500.
Anton Fabi
 shoes R500

NB 100654CT/EA

THE PERFECT 10

When the occasion calls for a touch of vintage, Richelieu 10 Year Old is the perfect choice. This gold winning* double-distilled, vintage brandy boasts a rich bouquet of aromas including chocolate, vanilla and green fig, a full-bodied palate and lingeringly smooth French Oak finish.

*2014 IWSC Outstanding Gold



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[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/RICHELIEUBRANDY](https://www.facebook.com/RICHELIEUBRANDY)



Not for Sale to Persons Under the Age of 18.

Parrot Zik These tech-loaded wireless headphones are crafted by French designer Philippe Starck. A touch pad lets you swipe left or right to change tracks and up or down for volume. Active Noise Control uses two mics to kill 98 per cent of ambient noise, ensuring your track is uninterrupted. All this tech comes with size and weight, making these guys the double-Ds of headphones. **R5 200**

Bang & Olufsen BeoPlay H2 The beautifully designed over-ears are remarkably light without feeling cheap. They sit snugly with an adaptive fit and lambskin covers that let you listen for hours without need for readjustment. The sound is rich with surprising bass capacity for its size, without unbalancing the mids and treble. An inline remote and mic also let you take calls as you need. **R3 700**

HEADS UP

Rock your ears with a sound investment

Words by Paul Sephton

Bowers & Wilkins P5

Soft leather covers give the P5s a classic B&W aesthetic. The sound feels spacious and open, with details in the mid and upper ranges. While the bass has deep clarity, it lacks pronouncement at times. Still, pop, rock and indie music lovers will relish the P5's perfectly tuned sound. **R4 290**

Bose Quiet Comfort 25

Noise-cancelling tech brings out new colour in songs you've played a hundred times over. Comfortable enough for a trans-Atlantic flight (they shine on a plane), the light cups have a magic in them that justifies the price you're likely gawking at. Test them in-store for a full conversion. **R5 300**

About that bass



Sennheiser Momentum Crafted with luxurious lightweight brushed stainless steel and soft Alcantara, these on-ear headphones are stylish and comfortable. As you'd expect, the sound quality is awesome, further reinforcing Sennheiser's reputation for quality and excellence. The elegant supra-aural design reduces background noise to a minimum. The set is available in black or brown and comes with an integrated smart remote and inline microphone for ease of use. **R4 930**

ALL HAIL THE KING

A royal adventure in Buenos Aires

We talk to Antoinette Owen-Jones, the winner of the King of Seduction competition, who got the chance to fly to Argentina and meet Antonio Banderas at the exclusive world launch of the grand seducer of fragrances.

What was it like to meet Antonio Banderas?

Antonio is so laid back and down to earth. It was like talking to a friend. He made us laugh and gave us some inspirational advice – he's a very talented person.

What does the name King of Seduction mean to you?

It's a man with confidence; a man who is not afraid to pursue the woman he wants. It's a man who enters a room and everyone feels his presence. The King of Seduction is the ultimate seducer.

What do you think of King of Seduction?

I love the fragrance. My husband has four bottles of it – it's unique, crisp, sexy, and it lasts all day.

You're in your third year of marriage. How do you keep the seduction going?

My husband Hamish still seduces me all the time. When I met him, he pursued me – he was self-confident and grabbed my attention immediately. He'll often tease me in a cute way or surprise me with something I never even knew I wanted. It also helps that we're always keen for adventure.



Clockwise from left: Antonio Banderas with winner Antoinette Owen-Jones and her husband, Hamish; meeting Antonio for the first time; Banderas hosting a film conference in Buenos Aires; the crowd gets an education from the master himself



Statement sound

Cups that add to your outfit and are loud in more ways than one



Euphonik X Rocka

House lovers can rejoice as the music powerhouse Euphonik puts his name on another product. Expect one-deeper bass from the DJ's latest collaboration with headphone maker Rocka. **R600**

Beats Solo HD

Probably the biggest statement piece in headphones this side of the '90s, Beats has come to stand for more of a lifestyle, which isn't to say that the lovine x Dre beauties don't put out a mean thump. **R2 500**



Skullcandy Crusher 2.0

Multiple drivers and an internal amp take care of the acoustics, but Skullcandy is better known for packaging its sound in the biggest fashion statements you'll find on the streets. **R1 500**

Amp
up your
game



If you're the kind of guy with a listening room in your house, then you're the kind of guy who won't blink at coughing up R69 000 for this McIntosh dedicated headphone amp. (Oh, and then R28 000 for the headphones.) The pair decodes your tunes to feed your ears maximum analogue fidelity with the spatiality of a sonic stadium. All hail the king of headphones. **GQ**

NEXT MONTH IN **GQ**

HOW TO BE STEPS TO BECOMING A RENAISSANCE MAN BRILLIANT

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Opening act, opening night,
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SAMSUNG

TEND
TO YOUR
BAR

The GQ Guide to MIXOLOGY AT HOME

Everything you
need to knock
back in style at
your own bar.
Just add friends

Words by Mark Byrne
and Kevin Sintumuang

A close-up photograph of a hand pouring a golden liquid, likely whiskey, through a metal strainer into a glass. The glass already contains a slice of citrus fruit. In the background, there are bottles of liquor, including one labeled 'MILK & HONEY STRAIGHT WHISKY', and some lemons on a dark surface.

No man's home is complete without a well-stocked bar... but what exactly is that supposed to mean? Ever since the liquor industry kicked into artisanal overdrive, it's been harder and harder to know. So we surveyed the bars, consulted the tenders, and pinned down the contents of the perfect living room liquor supply - along with all the expert tips and go-to tricks you need to use it. Now make yourself a drink, just to celebrate that you can.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHAEL GRAYDON

No 1

Assemble your arsenal (but don't go overboard)

How you assemble your bar depends on two things: your wallet and your temperament. Got a lot of money and no restraint? Pick up every bottle and go nuts. (Also: let's hang out.) But the other end of the spectrum – not much money, tons of restraint – isn't all that bad, either. We call that collection the core, because it's those seven liquors that should be the base of your bar. Whisky, gin, vodka, and rum give you a totally unassailable selection of drinks. Then you'll need sweet and dry vermouth, for Manhattans and martinis; a bottle of bitters; and always, always fresh citrus.

From there, start growing – but be selective. Appleton Estate Jamaica Rum (and a bottle of ginger beer) will help you quench your Dark 'n' Stormy craving. A good bourbon like Woodford Reserve and any Islay scotch (try Lagavulin) will satisfy the people in your life who like to drink things neat. Tequila and triple sec are necessary if you're a margarita man.

No 2

Lighten your tool belt

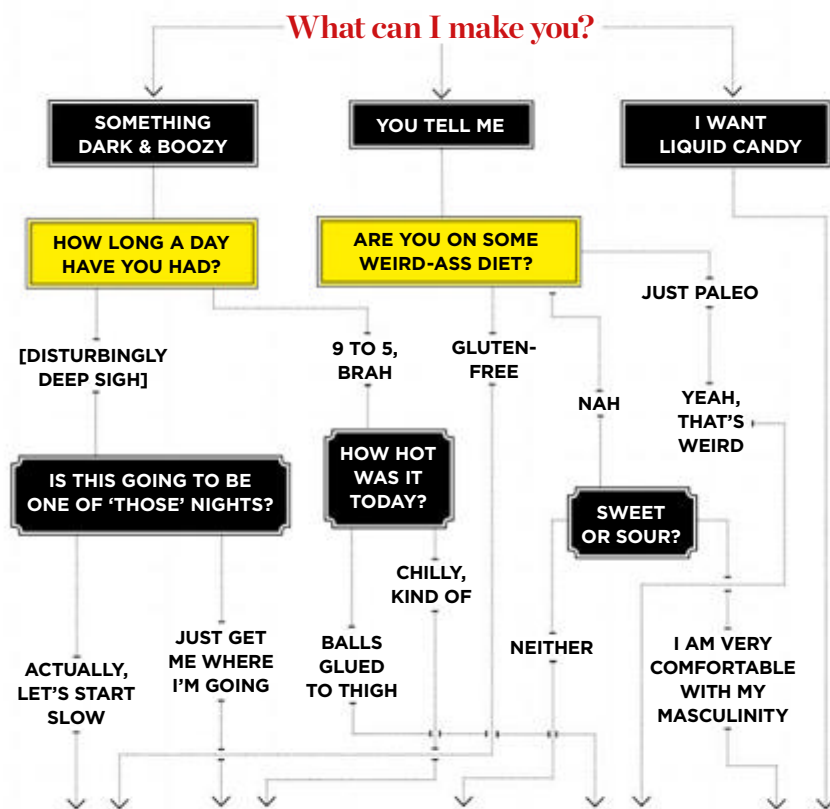


There are about five tools you need to make drinks, and none should come with batteries. Start with a **Parisian shaker (1)** and then you'll need a **strainer (2)**, too, for seeds and pulp. Get a **jigger (3)** with 30ml and 60ml sides (**get all three from Yuppiefchef.com in a Kitchen Craft set, R600**), and a **stirring spoon (4)** with some weight to it (it'll be easier to twirl), like this one from Banks Kitchen Boutique (**R60**). Then settle on a **paring knife (5)** (**Victorinox, R90**) that feels good in your hand. The rounded edge is specifically designed for dealing with citrus – and you'll be dealing with a lot of citrus.

No 3

QUENCH ANYONE'S THIRST

Whether you're dealing with a featherweight or an off-duty bartender, these five drinks will please the most demanding of drunks. – **Andrew Richdale**



AMERICANO

A lower-alcohol cousin of the Negroni with less bite and more ahhh.

- 45ml **Gran Classico (or Campari)**
- 45ml sweet vermouth
- 60ml club soda



MANHATTAN

Lightweights, beware: this decadent, smoky throat-burner is universal code for 'not fucking around'.

- 60ml rye whiskey
- 30ml **sweet vermouth**
- Couple of dashes of Angostura bitters



GIMLET

Gimlets are almost as refreshing as limeade, without all the sugar (and with, y'know, booze).

- 60ml **gin**
- 15ml lime juice
- 7.5ml simple syrup
- 2-3 lime wedges



MINT JULEP

Not just for the Derby. It's like a boozy mint snow cone for any damn day of the year you please.

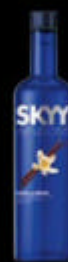
- 90ml **bourbon**
- 15ml simple syrup
- A handful of lightly muddled mint sprigs
- Crushed ice



'SNEAKY'

Or, Watermelon Sneaky Beach. The 'melon's good for you, too (see p125).

- 45ml **Sky Vodka**
- Fresh watermelon
- Fresh lime juice
- Lemon meringue foam



No 4

Carve out a space for your permanent collection

Building a home bar isn't a one-time affair – you've got to commit to restocking when something gets low. Which means you need a permanent place to keep your supply. A section of your bookshelf will do just fine, but if you're serious about your nightcaps, or if your friends tend to use your house as their own private corner bar, it's not a bad idea to invest in a bar cart. You can buy one ready-made, or you can repurpose anything with a surface and legs, like an old desk. Either way, this isn't the time to indulge your *Downton Abbey* fetish: a bar cart doesn't need wheels, unless you're planning to roll it out from a butler's pantry.

Normann Copenhagen
at Entrepo Block Table
R5 000 (est.)



No 5

Five items you don't want on your premises

- Pre-packaged lemon or lime juice
- Honey-flavoured whisky
- Caramel vodka
- Anything with over 70 per cent alcohol
- Any type of ice that is not actual ice



No 7

The Classic NEGRONI

David Cope, owner of Publik wine bar in Cape Town, knows a thing or two about serving singles and doubles. His summer staple: negronis. The classic Italian drink is a simple and refreshing slow sipper. It's also slightly bitter, unlike most other mixes that call for sugar plantations.



NEGRONI

- 25ml Jorgensen's gin
- 25ml Campari
- 25ml Sweet vermouth

Pour equal parts of each over ice in a tumbler, rim glass with orange wedge, drop in the wedge and stir.

No 8

MIX IT UP A LITTLE



Yes, you can add wine to that
Float a little red over the back of a spoon to add a tart kick to any whisky drink.

NEW YORK SOUR

- 60ml rye whiskey
- 30ml lemon juice
- 30ml simple syrup

Shake in shaker; strain over ice into glass. Drizzle 15ml red wine over back of spoon into completed cocktail.

No 6

MASTER THE SHAKE



The standard shake

The one you see on TV.

When: Anything with egg whites, and neat drinks that you want to be super cold.



The roll shake

Blends the ingredients without beating them up.

When: Bloody Marys.



The throw

A quick mix that will also aerate the booze.

When: In lieu of stirring with your finger.



Teetotal in style

Trying to get fit, or just can't drink for some strange reason? Grab an Uber Brew: it'll taste as good as it looks, and is less awkward than ordering water.

THE NEW ITALIAN: BOCCA

► Cnr Bree and Wale Sts, Cape Town.
021-422-0188, bocca.co.za

Cape Town's Bree Street has further had its food-mecca status bolstered with the opening of Bocca, by the same fine men and women who brought us the famed Burrata. The sidewalk restaurant is a beehive of activity and loud conversation, and Annemarie Steenkamp's menu design plays no small part in this: sharing is highly encouraged. While the lunchtime menu is fresh and bistro like, sundowners and a casual sophistication settle with the sunset, making it perfect for after-work drinks or a date. **GO – PS**



EVERY GENERATION
FINDS
GREATNESS

...



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1685



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INTERVIEW

Sam Claflin

The star of *The Hunger Games* is preparing to take on the world

Words by Nadia Neophytou

Sam Claflin has a penchant for doing interviews in grand places. Even if it's not through his own doing. When I first meet the British actor – for the film version of the fairytale *Snow White and the Huntsman*, starring Charlize Theron – it's at England's Arundel Castle. Two years later, we meet at the Majestic Hotel at the Cannes Film Festival. It's as if the backdrop for Claflin's interviews mirrors the rise of his career, which has taken him from the suburban footpaths of Norwich in England to the sea-blue skies of the French Riviera.

'My life has changed somewhat,' he says, relaxing into his seat, in attire that seems to fit the Cote d'Azur setting – a striped navy T-shirt, shorts and loafers. Only somewhat, Mr Claflin? 'Well, I don't really feel like my life has changed *that* drastically,' he adds. 'I'm just trying to navigate my career now. It's a matter of making the right decisions, being patient and not rushing into anything.'

The 28-year-old doesn't seem like he was in a rush with his acting career. The oldest of four boys, Claflin grew up wanting to play soccer, but an injury or two made him change his mind and he took up performing arts instead. 'I don't think I would have gone anywhere with soccer. If anything, I'd be playing on a Sunday morning for a pub team,' he chuckles. 'Certainly not here,' he says, looking out the window at the shimmery blue water.

It was actually playing a footballer that gave Claflin his first film role – as England national team player Duncan Edwards in *United*. Being in *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides* introduced Claflin to movie-goers beyond Britain, who up until then, had seen him in two TV series, *The Pillars of the Earth* and *Any Human Heart*.

A couple of other roles, including Prince William in *Snow White*, followed from that,

'I don't think I would have gone anywhere with soccer. Certainly not here'

building his career slowly and solidly. But it's the role of Finnick Odair in the sequel *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire* that has truly bumped up his profile – and the places he conducts interviews.

The Hunger Games has brought him to Cannes twice before, and Claflin says it still feels like a dream world. 'It's a place I never imagined being in.

It's my third time here – just coming here once is privilege enough.

Being here is great but having a film – well, that's something else entirely.' Two films, actually. While a *Hunger Games* contingent was at Cannes this year – drumming up excitement for the third instalment, *Mockingjay* – Claflin was also promoting a smaller, independent film, *Love, Rosie*, in which he stars alongside Lily Collins, the daughter of Phil Collins.

In *Love, Rosie*, Claflin plays the best friend to Collins's character, and the film charts their relationship as it dots around from friendship to love. 'My opinion is if you're such good friends and you go into a relationship, I don't think it will work out in the long run. Very few relationships that start out as friendships have the ability to go the distance,' he says. 'The moment you see your best friend naked, that's a shock. That changes everything,' he says, his dimples deepening.

His own relationship with actress Laura Haddock, whom he married in 2013, was one of those love-at-first-sight occurrences. 'We met an at audition,' he says. 'And it was an immediate "I love you", not "let's be friends". But now we are,' he adds. 'It's the perfect dynamic.'

Creating chemistry on screen, Claflin believes, is not entirely unlike falling in love. 'Someone said to me you're always attracted to your friends. Not necessarily in a sexual way, but you're attracted to whatever qualities they have. If they have a similar sense of humour, the things they're passionate about, the ideas you share. Something draws you to a certain person.'

His travels off-screen have taken him to grand places too. He likes to visit South Africa to see friends. 'I've only ever been to Cape Town and Durban, and I absolutely love the places so much. They're so beautiful,' Luckily for him, it's a place he can still come to visit, with or without his glittering career.

FILM

Find your thrill

Films that will get under your skin

Edited by Evert Lombaert

NIGHTCRAWLER

Directed by Dan Gilroy; with Jake Gyllenhaal, Rene Russo and Riz Ahmed

Screenwriter Gilroy makes an impactful directorial debut with his own script. Gyllenhaal is Lou Bloom, a desperate man trying to find any means to get paid. When he sees a camera crew shooting footage of an accident, Lou decides to pick up a camera and follow a new career path. While initially an observer to the goings-on, it isn't long before he is tempted to start tampering with his scenes in order to get better shots. This fine line between observer and participant become increasingly blurred as the stakes get higher. Russo delivers a great turn as Nina, a ruthless TV producer who lives by the 'if it bleeds, it leads' journalistic ethos and encourages Lou to constantly seek out increasingly violent

footage. The supporting cast is nicely rounded up by Ahmed's Rick, Lou's sidekick, who is a first-hand witness to Lou's murky morals. Part voyeuristic noir, part paranoid commentary, this will have you questioning media ethics long after the credits have rolled.

★★★★★

Released 6 March

EX MACHINA

Directed by Alex Garland; with Domhnall Gleeson, Oscar Isaac and Alicia Vikander

Multi-talented Garland has worn many hats during his incredibly successful career – he has authored three books

(*The Beach*, *The Tesseract* and *The Coma*), written numerous screenplays (including *28 Days Later*, *28 Weeks Later*, *Sunshine* and *Dredd*) and has even dabbled in producing duties. This sci-fi parable marks his first foray into directing. This film, like *Chappie*, tackles the question of whether artificial intelligence can ever really be more than the sum of its code. Gleeson, son of veteran actor Brendan Gleeson, portrays Caleb, a young programmer who is ecstatic to learn that he has won the opportunity to spend some time at the remote home of

his genius CEO, Nathan (Isaac). Caleb discovers that there is more to the visit when he is introduced to Ava (Vikander), an attractive female robot (yes, we are aware of how strange that sounds) who is extremely interested in the new arrival. Just as Nathan observes the interaction between the pair, we as audience are forced to question the motives of both men... and Ava. Offering us a thought-provoking look at a world that seems right around the corner, Garland has delivered solidly indeed.

★★★★★

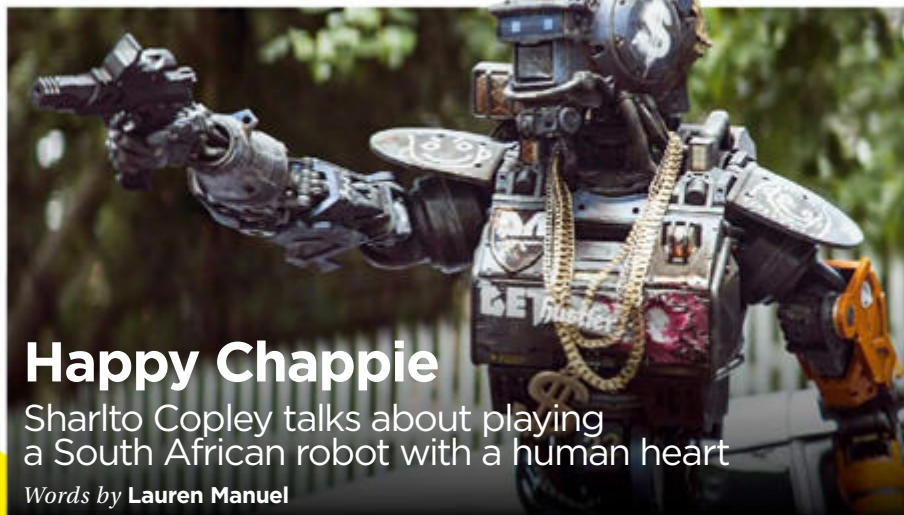
Released 20 March



Jake the snake



Hot bot Alicia Vikander



Happy Chappie

Sharlto Copley talks about playing a South African robot with a human heart

Words by Lauren Manuel

GQ: How would you describe your upcoming film *Chappie*?

Sharlto Copley: Well, a friend of mine who saw it described the film as 'a fairytale on meth' and I think that's a pretty accurate description [laughs]. It's definitely something different. You never know how viewers are going to react, but I hope South Africans will be proud of this one.

GQ: We're told that this is a balance between sci-fi and comedy – is it?

SC: *Chappie* isn't a comedy – it's very similar in tone to *District 9*, maybe with a bit more humour. As with *District 9*, I think South Africans will find *Chappie* funnier than the rest of the world will.

GQ: Who is Chappie?

SC: Chappie is a childlike robot with human thoughts and emotions. I think he's one of the best characters I've ever done. I'm so grateful that Neill [Blomkamp] and I got to make another South African film that will get into international pop culture.

GQ: How does the film compare to the Oscar-nominated *District 9* and *Elysium*?

SC: *Chappie* is a very different film for many reasons, however I suppose it's visually similar to *District 9* in terms of how Neill shot it, and it's also set in Jo'burg.

But Chappie doesn't have any big socio-political themes like the other two films do.

GQ: Tell us more about the cast.

SC: I had a great time with the cast. Dev [Patel] and I hit it off. We shared stories about how our lives had changed so quickly with our films *Slumdog Millionaire* and *District 9*. Die Antwoord are totally crazy and they bring something unique to the film. Hugh Jackman's performance in this movie is one of my favourite things I've seen him do – he plays this hilarious Australian villain with a Steve Irwin-style mullet. And Sigourney Weaver is a real lady and a sci-fi legend. I feel honoured to have had the chance to be in a film with her.

GQ: How long did it take to film?

SC: There were 60 actual shoot days, but I was in South Africa for about three months in total.

GQ: Where do you see yourself in five years' time?

SC: I will definitely be getting back into writing and directing again. I love acting but I have directing in my DNA, so I'm going to head down that road and see where it leads.

➔ More from Copley on *Chappie* at GQ.co.za

CHAPPIE

Directed by Neill Blomkamp; with Sharlto Copley, Hugh Jackman and Dev Patel Blomkamp and Copley pair up again with the tale of a robot programmed to develop thoughts and emotions. There are a number of recognisable designs, themes

and ideas from Blomkamp's shorts *Tetra Vaal* (2004) and *Tempbot* (2006) – YouTube them as they're not only great companion pieces, but earlier testaments to Blomkamp's distinct cinematic skills. It's a true pleasure to see the creative vision materialise like this on a larger canvas.

Copley's motion capture and vocal performance are imbued with naivety and charm, reminding us of the spirit within the metal. *Slumdog Millionaire*'s Patel is Deon; the loving Gepetto in this futuristic Pinocchio-

like tale. Jackman is Vincent, the polar opposite of Chappie, a man who lives in a binary and untrusting world. Throw in zef duo Die Antwoord along with the queen of sci-fi, Sigourney Weaver, and you have the makings of an intense local geekgasm.

★★★★★

Released 13 March



The Magnificent 7

Presenting our seven favourite real-life actresses who make fantastic robots



◀ Samantha, operating system (voiced by Scarlett Johansson, *Her*, 2013)



▶ Pris, replicant (Daryl Hannah *Blade Runner*, 1982)



◀ Rachael, replicant (Sean Young, *Blade Runner*, 1982)



▶ Fembots (Cheryl Bartel, *Austin Powers* trilogy, 1997, 1999 and 2002)



◀ Lenore, Lovebot (Nectar Rose; *Serenity*, 2005)



▶ Lisa, the 'perfect woman' (Kelly LeBrock; *Weird Science*, 1985)



◀ T-X, android (Kristanna Loken; *Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines*, 2003)



Omarion

Sex Playlist
MMG/Atlantic
(Warner)

The Vibe: When a man makes an entire album about sex, you have to wonder if it's because he likes it a lot, or if he's compensating. Either way, *Sex Playlist* is exactly what it promises to be, nothing more, nothing less: well-lubricated R&B for a night at your neighbour's.

The High: It's silky and seductive, with a couple of tracks worthy of Omarion's past accolades.

The Low: The message is just a little confusing. While he doesn't condone infidelity, you wouldn't think so after listening to this. It's also not as solid as his old stuff. Perhaps life on VH1 is distracting him.

The Track:
'Work'
★★★★★



MUSIC

Rock hard

Tracks to keep your blood pumping

Edited by Jason Alexander Basson



Bittereinder

Skerm
(Electromode)

The Vibe: The third studio offering from the 'Bitter Boys', brings a more melodic approach to their sound.

The High: More harmonies and choruses, but fear not! This will still leave you with that 'bitter' taste in your mouth.

The Low: A great album but not too revolutionary.

The Track:

'The Ones' feat. Tumi Molekane & Tim Beumers
★★★★★



Now

That's What I Call the 80s
(Universal)

The Vibe: A compilation album and thorough education in popular music from the '80s.

The High: The album includes

three compact discs packed with hits that cover most of the iconic numbers, without getting too cheesy.

The Low: Of course you can't really do the '80s justice in three short discs - there are a number of tracks that deserved to be included, as well as a few that probably shouldn't have made the cut in the first place. It might have helped to have each disc themed according to mood.

The Track: 'Don't Go' by Yazoo
★★★★★



Foo Fighters

Sonic Highway
(Universal)

The Vibe: It's full-force Foo but with a stronger leaning towards more classic rock.

The High: It's easily digestible and offers a broad variety of moods and tempos.

The Low: It would have been nice to see this, their eighth album, really push the envelope.

The Track:
'The Pretender'
★★★★★

GAMES

Video-game villains

Being bad has never looked so good

Edited by Grant Hinds

It appears we enjoy our raging psychopaths with a bit of flair, a dash of wit and something exceptional. We celebrate some of the best of the worst.



Villain: Vaas Montenegro

Game: *Far Cry 3* (2012)

Nemesis: Jason Brody

Known for: His unpredictability and mind-trickery. But what makes Vaas truly evil is his penchant for the punk aesthetic.



Villain: Psycho Mantis

Game: *Metal Gear Solid* (1998)

Nemesis: Solid Snake

Known for: Using his powers of telepathy and telekinesis to break the fourth wall, read your mind and, spookily (in 1998, I'm sure), make your controller move: a brilliant move on publisher Konami's part.



Villain: Dr Fetus

Game: *Super Meat Boy* (2010)

Nemesis: Meat Boy, on a quest to rescue his girlfriend, Bandage Girl. Yep. Cute.

Known for: Being an evil foetus in a jar and with a top hat.

THROWBACK THE MIC

This month in rock music history

1966

The Rolling Stones tour Australia and New Zealand over 11 days.

1976

AC/DC shoot the video for 'It's a Long Way to the Top (If You Wanna Rock 'n' Roll)'

1985

Stevie Wonder is arrested outside the SA Embassy in Washington during an anti-apartheid demonstration.

1985

The Smiths go to number one in the UK with their album *Meat is Murder*.



RECIPES

Feel like your summer holiday is far behind you?

It's not too late for a culinary kind of vacation, so pick a destination and cook up its cuisine

Edited by **Cayleigh Bright**

● **Death by Burrito**
by Shay Ola
(Octopus, R260)

An eatery based in Shoreditch provides the setting in which the authentic, multiple-course meals documented in *Death by Burrito* were created in accordance with Mexican tradition – and a dash of modern flavour, of course.

● **Surf Café Living**
by Jane and Myles Lamberth
(Orca Publications, R326)

The recipes are great, but what makes this cookbook even more valuable is its advice on enjoying the food – in true, laid-back seaside style.

● **Terroir – The Cookbook**
by Michael Broughton
(Random House Struik, R350)
Take your cues from Kleine Zalze

wine farm's accomplished chef to produce restaurant-ready meals from *Terroir – The Cookbook's* precise, wineland-inspired recipes.

● **In the Charcuterie**
by Taylor Boetticher and Topolina Miller
(Random House Struik, R582)

Whether you desire charcuterie at its freshest and best, plan to impress or just have a healthy passion for preparing real meat, this is the book to get you started or sharpen your skills.

● **Strandveldfood**
by Kobus van der Merwe and Jac de Villiers (Jonathan Ball, R350)

A year's worth of foraging and photographing on SA's West Coast has resulted in a book that showcases traditional meals prepared with entirely new ingredients.

● **Veld to Fork: Slow Food from the Heart of the Karoo**
by Gordon Wright
(Random House Struik, R250)

There may be no cuisine meatier or more satisfying than that created in the Karoo – so if your palate is proudly South African, learn how to prepare it properly now and look forward to a winter of hearty enjoyment ahead.

● **Plenty More**
by Yotam Ottolenghi
(Random House Struik, R570)

Although its regional focus isn't as obvious as it was in Ottolenghi's last book, *Jerusalem*, this follow-up to *Plenty* serves up another assortment of recipes ideally suited to anyone who loves a Mediterranean-style feast.



Guess Who's Coming to Dinner: The GQ Edition

We're hosting a bring-and-braai for our favourite characters



Elon Musk

He's the man of the future, but is his bobotie out of this world?



Kim Jong Un

Makes a mean bowl of North Korea's penne alla obedience.



Carrie Mathison

On meds: a delight.
Off meds: interrogating the gravy boat, before arresting the potatoes. Great taste in white wine.



Jon Snow

In charge of cups and ice.



Judge Masipa

Serving just desserts. Will break for tea every seven minutes. ☕





Innovation
that excites



NEW NISSAN JUKE. TESTED TO THRILL

You feel the hair on the back of your neck begin to stand. Your eyes sharpen as your pupils dilate. Your heart begins to race. You're in the new, bold Nissan Juke. Your online world travels with you, thanks to NissanConnect, and the confident, responsive range of engines lets you know that this isn't just a drive; it's a thrill.

Available in 1.2 Turbo, 1.5dCi and 1.6 DIG-T engines.

nissan.co.za

NEW
**DAVID
BECKHAM**
CLASSIC BLUE



The smart money: BUSINESS READS • GOING (RETRO)VIRAL • A GUIDE TO PROPERTY SYNDICATES • MANAGING YOUR SAVINGS

It's time to change your financial thinking

20 new ideas about money

Compiled by Mark Hooper



Peter Vessenes
CoinLab

Giles Andrews
Zopa

Yoni Assia
eToro

Jacob de Geer
iZettle

John Collison
Stripe

Some of the top innovators in the financial world met recently to discuss the future of currency, tech and everything in between. In the world of finance, new thinking brings innovation:

here are 20 new ideas about how we should be approaching our money – from the entrepreneurs and CEOs who've already done the hard work and the deep thinking.

1 Banks need to understand what 'customer first' really means, says Giles Andrews of peer-to-peer lender Zopa.

'Investment banking is a perfect example of banks forgetting who their customers are. The banking industry needs to do what low-cost airlines have done: identify what is important to consumers and simplify accordingly.'

2 Customers stick to what they know – particularly where their money is concerned, says Peter Vessenes, founder and CEO of CoinLab, a Bitcoin exchange.

'Even if they're not good, protocols tend to stick around,' said 'The email protocol designed in the '60s is terrible, but we still use it. With money, it's doubly sticky – you're almost paid to implement this protocol.'

3 Many of us still choose our bank predominantly because our parents are customers, or because it's nearby. 'You wouldn't choose music, fashion or food like that – why choose financial institutions like that?' – Yoni Assia, founder of social trading and investing platform eToro.

4 Infrastructure is a problem... 'Payment systems are holding back online progress,' says John Collison, cofounder of online payment service Stripe.

5 ... and hardware firms need to get wise to that, and fast, warns Jacob de Geer, CEO and founder of card-payment platform iZettle. 'If you're a company that only produces payments hardware, start thinking about how to stay relevant in the future.'

6 A little transparency can begin to fix banking's image problem, says Michael Laven, CEO of foreign-exchange platform The Currency Cloud. Trading platforms need to offer fairer deals without any hidden surprises.

7 Emerging markets in the developing world need a dedicated B2B foreign-exchange platform to help them discover the best possible rates. Leslie Onyesoh founded Kwanji for that reason. 'Think of us as... a money supermarket for the foreign-exchange market,' he says of the company, which aims to save clients 85 per cent off fees.



Kevin Slavin
MIT Media Lab

Sean Park
Anthemis

John Lunn
PayPal

Meline von Brentano
Palantir

Ed Wray
Funding Circle

Jeff Lynn
Seedrs

8 Ask your bank to explain the mid-market rate. 'I guarantee it'll be fun,' suggested Taavet Hinrikus, whose setup TransferWise helps us exchange currency at the rates banks do. The mid-market exchange rate doesn't exist at your bank.

9 Investing in startups isn't just for angels and venture capitalists. 'This is the time for investing in startups,' announces Jeff Lynn, cofounder and CEO of crowdfunding platform Seedrs. 'We need to get that investment out of the hands of the so-called established elite and into the hands of the masses. The model is working; this shouldn't be a surprise.'

10 Banks still don't understand the concept of open source. By sharing their API with developers, banks can let trusted tech companies do their research and development work for them. Developers can enhance the banks' apps and digital offerings while ensuring the banks retain control of their data. That's the idea behind the Open Bank Project, according to founder Simon Redfern.

11 Technology needs to be invisible. The best type of payment is one you don't see. 'That's the future of spending money,' insists John Lunn, global director of PayPal Developer, which helps startups integrate their systems with the payment giant.

12 The sector's smaller retailers still struggle with data analysis. To this end, Darren Oddie has formed AGILE Customer Insight to offer easy-to-use, low-cost shopper insight software.

14 Wonga isn't going away 'People want short-term loans, no matter what a loud minority says,' contends the founder of the digital finance company, Errol Damelin.

15 The basics of saving should be taught as early as possible. 'There is a fundamental disconnect between the way young people today view money and the way the previous generations did,' said Lisa Halpern, founder and CEO of Kiboo, which offers budgeting and personal-finance tools to children.

13 We need to demystify trading. Major market crashes have occurred, and will continue to occur, because the market no longer has a human interface, said Kevin Slavin from MIT Media Lab.

16 Social media has created a 'currency of reputation'. 'Personal reputation is going to become a currency and cornerstone of our society in the next decade,' says Collaborative Lab' Rachel Botsman. 'People are realising that reputation data has tremendous value – it can help them get a job, a lease or a mortgage.'

17 Machines may soon need their own social networks. Stan Stalnaker, founding director of Hub Culture, the social network that runs Ven Currency, reveals that the winner of a hackathon it instigated allowed robots to pay each other using currency and could share more than just information online.

18 Regulators need to understand how banks work. 'We need a regulatory framework that accepts tolerable risks and losses,' suggests Sean Park, founder of Anthemis. 'Let's start an incubator of regulators. We've got a blank slate, so let's not go straight back to the box-ticking mentality.'

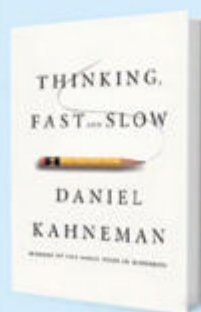
19 You've been lending to businesses since you had a bank account... ...you've just had no control or say in the process, and it hasn't always been done to your advantage. We need to learn to lend smarter and more directly, urges Ed Wray of Funding Circle and cofounder of Betfair.

20 Financial institutions need to combine forces to face off the threat of cyber attack. 'The relative inability of commercial organisations to share threat information... is hampering the resilience of the industry as a whole,' says Meline von Brentano, an engineer at Palantir. 'Hackers often target many institutions. Cyber defence is not about competitive advantage but combating a shared threat.' 

A wealth of knowledge

Words by Paul Sephton

While you wait for your TED talk to buffer, grow your mind and your business from anywhere with top reads from the working world's greatest authors



Thinking, Fast and Slow

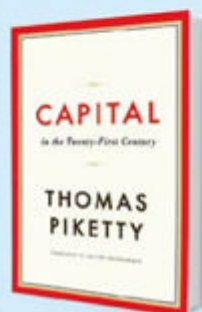
by Daniel Kahneman
(Farrar Straus Giroux, R209)

The Nobel-winning behavioural economist shares fascinating insights into how and why we make choices, business and personal, through two systems that drive our thinking. Like seeing a fast, emotional system playing out against a slower, logical method, Kahneman's knowledge of why we choose what we choose is invaluable, no matter what work you do.

Creativity, Inc.

by Ed Catmull
(Random House, R455)

As co-founder and president of Pixar, Ed Catmull tackles creativity in business and the art of fostering original and creative thought in management. Catmull calls the book an expression of the ideas that he believes make the best in us possible, while taking you behind the scenes of one of the most brilliant, ground-breaking companies ever created.



Capital in the Twenty-First Century

by Thomas Piketty
(Volante, R572)

The book that caused more hype last year than any actual Wall Street goings-on, *Capital* is by no means perfect, but an essential if you want to make conversation with anyone in a suit. Piketty's investigation of income inequality and our current standing exposes the dynamics driving the accumulation and distribution of wealth – essential knowledge in any business debate.

Zero to One

by Peter Thiel
with Blake Masters
(Crown Business, R387)

Just as we thought we had everything we needed before Facebook, Airbnb and every other now indispensable startup arrived, in *Zero to One*, PayPal co-founder Peter Thiel reveals the great secret of our time: there are still new creations to invent. He uncovers ways to create – essential in escaping competition and championing the completely new.



Thrive: The Third Metric to Redefining Success and Creating a Life of Well-Being, Wisdom, and Wonder

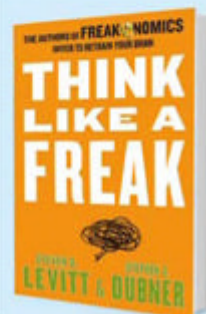
by Arianna Huffington
(Harmony, R340)

Huffington offers new perspective on where to place value, positing well-being and mindfulness as the third metric of success to the age-old professional-life duo of yardsticks: money and power. The media mogul helps you check your priorities on your rise to the top.

Think Like a Freak

by Steven D Levitt
and Stephen J Dubner
(William Morrow, R125)

While both *Freakonomics* and *Superfreakonomics* have been beyond hyped, this duo's new book offers a backdoor toolkit to thinking like a freak – thinking differently in a way that uses data over emotions and challenging conventional wisdom. While it's a fun read, it also offers a revealing look into the thinking of two outliers of our time.



Words of wisdom

'You are not your idea, and if you identify too closely with your ideas, you will take offence when they are challenged.'

– Ed Catmull

'A RELIABLE WAY TO MAKE PEOPLE BELIEVE IN FALSEHOODS IS FREQUENT REPETITION, BECAUSE FAMILIARITY IS NOT EASILY DISTINGUISHED FROM TRUTH. AUTHORITARIAN INSTITUTIONS AND MARKETERS HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN THIS FACT.'

– Daniel Kahneman

'We think, mistakenly, that success is the result of the amount of time we put in at work, instead of the quality of time we put in.'

– Arianna Huffington

'Rivalry causes us to overemphasise old opportunities and slavishly copy what has worked in the past.'

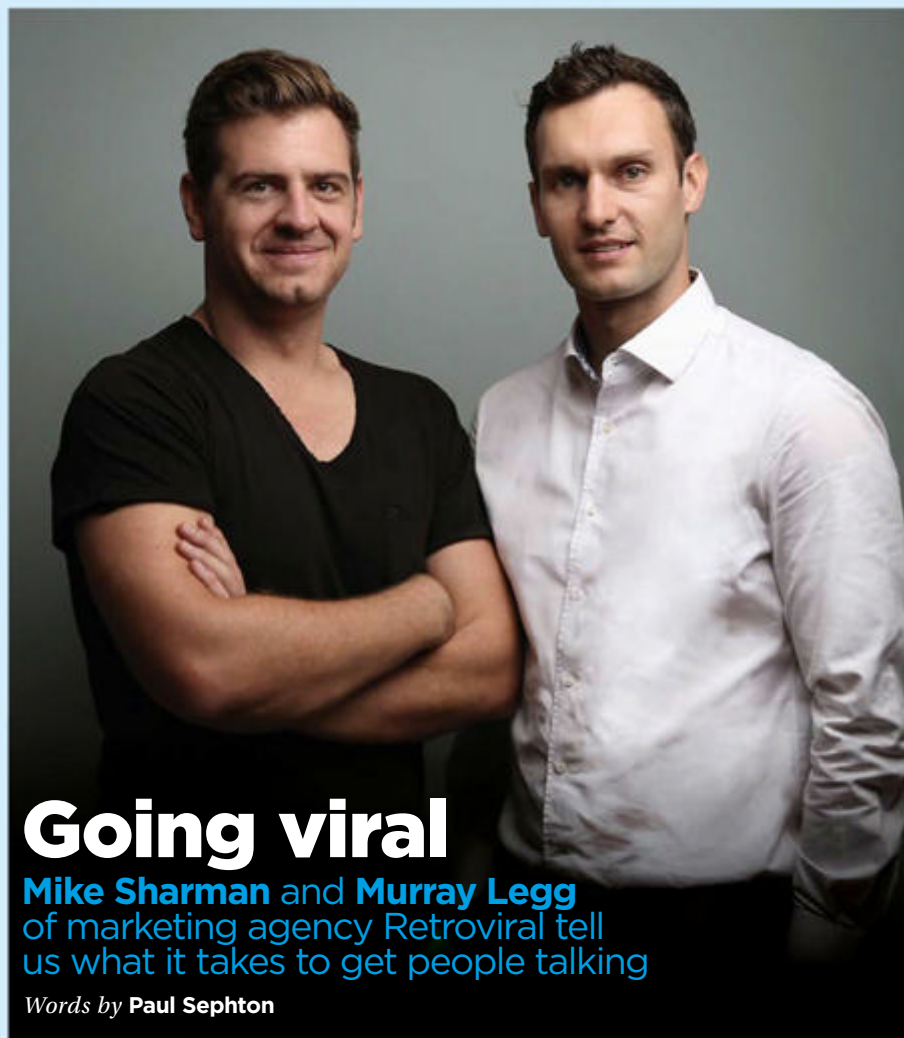
– Peter Thiel

'DON'T LISTEN TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY; WATCH WHAT THEY DO.'

– Steven D Levitt

'When the rate of return on capital exceeds the rate of growth of output and income, as it did in the nineteenth century and seems quite likely to do again in the twenty-first, capitalism automatically generates arbitrary and unsustainable inequalities.'

– Thomas Piketty



Going viral

Mike Sharman and Murray Legg of marketing agency Retroviral tell us what it takes to get people talking

Words by Paul Sephton

GQ: Retroviral uses digital media to get people talking about brands and increasing web presence. How does a business go viral?

Mike Sharman: Remarkable content sits at the heart of everything we do, but Retroviral is built on a four-pillar approach: strategy, content creation, content dissemination, and reporting and tracking analytics. Too many marketers in SA are obsessed with tactics and the execution of the creative. Many forget to take a step back to actually dissect the target market they are wanting to engage with.

Once the strategy is compiled, we are able to ascertain which platforms resonate with our brand's target market. After the content is created, it needs to be distributed to the target market. It is also imperative to report on the campaign's successes and weaknesses to establish what will work in the future and what needs to be sacrificed.

GQ: You frequently work with bloggers and key online personalities. What do you think it takes to build an online following for yourself?

Murray Legg: Building an authentic and engaged community online takes time and effort. It means finding and creating content that others can relate to and will want to share. Perseverance is important to ensure your platforms stay current.

GQ: What percentage of the SA population do you have access to through your mediums, as compared to traditional media?

MS: According to internetlivestats.com, we have about 25 million internet users in South Africa. The reach of traditional media is still greater than digital, but with smartphone penetration always on the rise, it won't be long until we have the potential to communicate with every South African via our campaigns.

'Going into business with someone with a similar set of values makes the business journey that much more enjoyable'

GQ: Do you think traditional modes of advertising are losing relevance?

MS: Internet stats are an exact science – our reports can provide us with detailed analytics about the location of a viewer, reader, fan or follower. TV and radio have always relied on hypothetical numbers based on sample sizes to justify their value. With the advent of PVR, catch-up facilities and online content access, traditional media is becoming less relevant. Brands will continue to increase their digital spend, which is fantastic for our industry.

ML: But there will always be a space for print, TV and radio. We can't deny that TV ads and billboards are still effective. The trick is getting brands to allow their traditional and digital methods to integrate. Seeing a brand campaign online, then again on your drive home on a billboard, and again that night on your Facebook or Twitter feed, will allow for the highest possible chance of a conversion if the messages are all the same yet tailored for each platform. Marketers need to learn to start taking digital as seriously as they do traditional methods.

GQ: What would your advice be on who to go into business with, or what red flags to watch out for?

MS: Don't let financial fears cripple you, but have a contingency plan for when cash flow is tight – a leading cause of startup deaths, both in SA and around the world.

ML: Going into business with someone with a similar set of values makes the business journey that much more enjoyable. Understanding each other's roles and responsibilities means that we don't create any friction.


GQ: How important is the global reach of digital when you're creating content for local brands?

MS: We try to make content as locally relevant as possible to create connections with our brands' target markets.

ML: We conduct research about all the brands we work with before our campaigns commence, and use these insights to adapt our strategy throughout. Global reach is relevant because even if a campaign is locally focused, it can still resonate with international audiences.

GQ: If you could invest in one business or industry right now, what would it be?

MS: Webfluential.com – influencer marketing is the right bet for Africa and the rest of the world right now.

ML: E-commerce for Africa. It's still a way off, but we have the advantage of skipping out on the traditional maturation of the consumer-goods evolution. 

➔ Read the full interview on GQ.co.za

Spending money is usually more fun than saving it. But while you may kid yourself that your natty new Ozwald Boateng suit was an investment in your future,

you won't be able to live off it in 30 years' time. Wealth management isn't just for the super rich. Whether you're a fresh entrepreneur hoping your tech start-up will make it big,

or an ambitious young executive eyeing the rungs of your chosen career ladder, you should start thinking about financial planning sooner rather than later.

1. START EARLY

Personalised service is usually available when you have earnings above R700 000 per annum or investable assets of at least R5 million. Whatever your level of wealth, however, it pays to start planning early. The best

wealth managers take a 'needs-based' approach to financial planning, looking at your resources and goals before deciding how much risk to take. Your plan should be reviewed regularly to take account of changing circumstances.

5. EDUCATE YOURSELF

This is your money and your future, so take some responsibility. Interrogate your wealth manager. Don't be afraid to ask even the most basic questions. Ask for their research. Go to the seminars.

Read the boring business pages and listen to the financial news. The language of finance can seem impenetrable at first, but familiarity always breeds comprehension and, ultimately, you want to feel in control of your finances, don't you?

2. CHOOSE THE RIGHT PARTNERS

Larger banks and brand-name wealth managers are highly regulated, have a good range of both investment and loan products and often have big research teams with global reach. Stick to advice-led firms with open architecture platforms, meaning they are not just pushing their own products, but sourcing the best investments from third parties, too. Shop around, even after you've begun an initial relationship with your first-choice in management.



Game plan
Five ways to secure your financial future

Words by **Damian Nixon**

3. GET THE STRUCTURE RIGHT

What happens if your business is attacked by creditors? Or if you fall under a bus? Getting the right structures in place at the beginning protects your wealth for you and your family and can save you a lot of

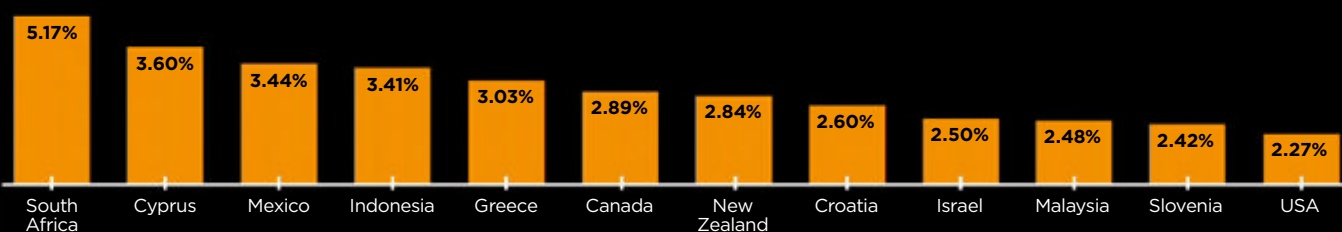
headaches (and tax) later on. It's amazing how many successful people have never thought about the basics, such as wills, pension plans or setting up trusts, and consequently lose out when something goes wrong or the taxman comes calling.

4. STICK TO YOUR PLAN

Don't be distracted by your golf buddy bragging about his massive win on that sexy mining stock. Management is about taking calculated risks to achieve your desired goals – you don't need to shoot the lights out with every investment. Yes, you should be taking more risk when you're still growing your wealth, but chasing the market is not a strategy. Besides, your mate hasn't told you about the three other stocks that blew up in his face last week.

How much of your salary do you spend on petrol?

PERCENTAGE OF AVG. ANNUAL INCOME



How to avoid a rough landing

Property may be a sound investment, but beware of syndicate schemes

Words by **Bruce Cameron**



This column is not about what you should invest in, but rather a warning about one of those so-called investments that should be avoided at all costs, namely property syndications.

A property syndication can entail a small group of people who buy a holiday home, without the involvement of a third party, or thousands of people who invest in a multi-billion-rand shopping mall, with the syndication organised by a sponsor or promoter of some kind.

A properly run property syndication is perfectly legal, but even it has risks. Over the past few years, a number of syndication schemes have imploded as property prices have levelled off, exposing the fragility of the schemes. Elderly people, many of whom are beggared by low interest rates, seem to be the primary targets of fast-talking, high-commission-earning salespeople, who use glossy brochures and complex prospectuses to sell syndications, but who often fail to disclose all the facts and all the risks.

The risks you face with syndicates

LEGAL STRUCTURE

You need to be aware that most property syndication schemes do not give you direct ownership of the syndicated property, and most do not even give you indirect ownership in perpetuity. Most syndications are structured as unlisted companies. As such, they must be registered with the Registrar of Companies and issue a prospectus, which describes the what and how of the syndication. This includes details of the syndicated property or properties, the investment structure and how the company intends to attract investors and hopes to make a profit.

This is typically how the ownership structure of a property syndication works:

- ▶ The promoter (syndicator) identifies a particular property.
- ▶ The property is bought, or an option is taken to buy the property, in the name of a company that the syndicator registers with the Registrar of Companies.
- ▶ Simultaneously, another company (a holding company) is registered. The holding

company owns the company that purchased the property (Property Syndication A Company Ltd).

- ▶ The holding company sells linked shares and debentures to investors. This means you, for example, lend the holding company R1 000 for every share you buy. In effect, Property Syndication A Holding Company (Pty) Ltd is borrowing money from investors to finance the purchase of the property.
- ▶ Property Syndication A Company Ltd then borrows money (the debentures put up by investors) from the holding company to purchase the property. The loan is unsecured. In other words, the holding company has no preferential claim on the property owned by Property Syndication A Company Ltd if there is a problem.

PRICE

There is a huge difference between what the promoter pays for a property (usually its market value) and the total amount the promoter expects to receive from investors. An example is the

Spitskop syndication in Mpumalanga, which is now in liquidation. The 190-hectare property, which was 'barren bushveld' with a valuation of R1 million, was bought in 2003 in the name of a company called Blue Dot, controlled by the syndicate sponsors. It was sold to the Spitskop syndication company for R118.3 million and subsequently valued at R425 million. The value of the land went from R5 000 per hectare to R900 000 per hectare without a sod of earth being turned, and the syndicators made a profit of more than R400 million on the land.

RESERVE ACCOUNTS

These accounts are set up with the investors' capital and are often used to fund the initial payments to investors. Income guarantees are given to investors for the first two or three years but this money is often paid out of your investment capital rather than from any returns earned by the underlying investments.

LIQUIDITY

This can be a major problem, especially when the syndicator is still trying to sell all the remaining linked shares/debentures.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Most syndicators provide the administration services themselves, either directly or through an associated company, giving them another bite at investor funds. The conditions of the contract make it almost impossible for investors to fire the property managers.

COSTS

The syndicator takes about six per cent of your investment, and the people who flog syndications receive commissions in excess of six per cent. So you lose 12 per cent or more of your capital up front. It's in your interest to rather invest in a property company listed on a stock exchange or a collective investment scheme property portfolio. **GQ**




*Will the story
of your life read like
everybody else's?
Or will you
Live your way?*

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GOLD IN EVERY DROP

Not for Sale to Persons Under the Age of 18

Generosity:

The new paradigm for the modern age

Tap into your better humanity

Words by Matthew Paroz



What is this new social trend that has come to be known as Generation G? The G stands for generosity and the G Generation is the logical backlash against the Me Generation: that orgy of technology and egotism that gave rise to the self-absorbed unreality of reality TV.

Notoriety has become such common currency that it's now mistaken for fame. The reality, however, is that looking out for oneself means to be in a constant battle to be noticed. Like any conflict, it ultimately leaves you depleted, disconnected and sorely embittered.

'We've been sold this idea that the more we get, the happier we'll be,' says Jono Fisher, who founded the Wake Up Project in a bid to provide a contagion where positivity proves infectious. Generation G is not about changing who we are, but tapping into our better humanity. 'It's reminding us of something that we know and feel, but has been covered up by busy-ness,' Fischer says.

The modern man can hit the 'G' -spot in whole new ways...

Listen

An open ear endears you to others in a way that a strident voice can never do. Giving lovers, friends or colleagues precisely what they desire is that much easier if one hears what it is that they want in the first place. Attentiveness will be repaid in kind.

Come second

Being a runner-up is not a term that men are encouraged to see as some kind of virtue. But making others a priority should be. Put a partner first, yield to strangers in traffic and refrain from treating the opening

of a bus door as though a starter's gun has fired.

Civility

Like impeccable tailoring, good manners are timeless and exude class and sophistication. Common courtesy often goes unacknowledged, but it is rarely unnoticed. A show of respect is even more powerful against those most undeserving of them. The Better Man kills with kindness.

Value credibility

Substitute blind consumerism from a new brand awareness, where the things you buy speak to a broader world view. Be conscious of outfits and labels that go the extra mile to build communities, spurn sweatshops or leverage their profile and capabilities for the greater good.

Take the time

In a fast-moving world where time is a commodity, the little moments in life are inevitably sacrificed at the altar of deadlines and ambition. Take a step back from the rush to do more and you'll have more. Live in the moment and you'll see further than you ever have.

The Art of Gratitude

A considered display of thanks goes a long way



A GENERATION AGO, one of the measures of quality of a man was his adherence to the graceful civility of gratitude. Today, many of us seem to believe that implied thanks will suffice. If you are one of these men, it's time to guess again.

► **If you are a guest in someone's home**, pre-thank them by taking over a small gift. A bottle is good, something they collect is better, but cash is weird. This is the first of three thanks. The second is to be done verbally at the door as you leave. The third expression of gratitude should take the form of a note. Not text, not email, but handwritten and with the effort required to post. This mirrors the effort that you felt they went through to entertain you/buy you a birthday gift/so on.

► **Casual affairs** – such as a dinner at your mum's or mate's – certainly do not require the formality of a handwritten note but if you send a thank-you email, at least take the time to write out words like 'your' and 'thanks'. Why? Because 'ur' and 'thx' are to sheer gratitude what Charlie Sheen is to sanity.

► Notes don't have to be gushy.

Addressed to your host/s, they simply have to read, 'Thank you for a fantastic evening; I had a great time and hope to see you again soon'.

► **If the note regards a gift**, be sure to acknowledge it and include a reason as to why you like it or how you might intend to use it. For example: 'Thank you so much for the great juicer. I will be reminded of your generosity and good taste each morning I use it for a breakfast vitamin hit.'

► Take your time in writing the note.

Like many of us, chances are that you spend more time on a keyboard than with pen in hand, so ensure your calligraphy is deciphered. Illegible doctor's prescription-style text will seriously diminish its impact.

UPDATE
YOUR STATUS



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G O L D I N E V E R Y D R O P

Not for Sale to Persons Under the Age of 18

What you can learn from Good Men

It may seem that truly inspiring characters are as rare as white cows in this modern age. Yet there are still those who fulfil the brief with enviable grace. These men simply do what they do and we are left to marvel at the way in which they do it.



Nelson Mandela
Father of a nation

► **You're never too old to dance.**

During the fall of apartheid, Nelson Mandela's spontaneous *toyis* embodied the nation's joy.

► **'Resentment is like drinking poison and waiting for it to kill your enemy.'** Mandela personally invited his jailer James Gregory to be a VIP at his inauguration.

► **A warrior's mind needs a warrior's body.** During the early days of apartheid, Mandela kept up a tough regime of

boxing training. He'd then go ballroom dancing with the missus on Saturday nights.

► **Retiring doesn't mean stopping.** After 27 years in jail and a term as president, Mandela continued his work for HIV/AIDS awareness campaigns and combatting poverty. He believed this kept him young.

► **You're never too old to fall in love.** Mandela celebrated his 80th birthday by marrying his 43-year-old partner, Graça Machel.

Warren Buffett Businessman

► **Decide how much is enough and be generous with the rest.**

In 2006, Buffett pledged to give 85 per cent of his wealth (then \$40 billion) to the Gates Foundation.

► **Get yourself a snappy nickname that everyone in your field will know you by.** Buffett's is 'the Oracle of Omaha'.

► **Relax in a manner that will leave you with a sharpened mind.** Buffett plays bridge 12 hours a week.

His feelings about *Angry Birds*, however, remain unknown.

► **Hone your business skills.** As a boy, Buffett began his first enterprise retrieving lost golf balls and selling them back to weekend hackers.

► **Just because you have it, doesn't mean you have to spend it.** Buffett still lives in the same Omaha home he bought three decades ago for \$31 500.



Tom Ford Designer

► **Less is more.** Jeans, a white shirt and a jacket – nothing else is needed on you.

► **Tradition is only a starting point.** When he joined the ailing Gucci house, Ford didn't hark back to its heady past. He took it somewhere better.

► **Don't kid yourself.** 'As a fashion designer, I was always aware that I was not an artist, because I was creating something that was made to be sold, marketed, used and ultimately discarded.'

► **Be creative in applying your knowledge.** Ford graduated as an architect before turning his innate knowledge of structure to fashion instead.

► **Trust your talent.** In making his debut directorial film, *A Single Man*, Ford knew his aesthetic would translate from runway to celluloid.

► **Get a dog.** Because even geniuses need unconditional love. Ford has two fox terriers, Angus and India.

ILLUMINATED BY

A HEART OF GOLD DESERVES ANOTHER



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GOLD IN EVERY DROP

Not for Sale to Persons Under the Age of 18

Visual tricks that will make you more confident

Whether it's a meeting, date or that tax audit with SARS, nothing will scupper your credibility more than showing nervousness. Use these subtle but effective techniques to boost your self-assuredness and to help get you over the line.

Look at the eyes

Nothing says lack of confidence like an unwillingness to make eye contact. Just don't hold it for too long or you'll start to look like a celebrity hypnotist.

Let's hear it for the poise

Queen of deportment June Dally-Watkins is right when she says that posture is just as important for men as it is women. The formula: shoulders back + gut slightly tightened = how every man should project himself.

Putting the squeeze on

Unless the person that you're meeting is suffering from acute osteoporosis, never avoid a firm handshake.

Corral the collar

If you want people to think you're a



stumbling schlub, go ahead and ignore that collar that's half-caught beneath your jacket. And unless you're auditioning for a role as a suburban meth dealer, remember that your shirt collar goes inside your jacket, not over it.

Dental is everything

Fresh breath counts, so brush whenever you can. Even keep a tube and brush in your office drawer, in case you have a meeting after lunch.

In the frame

Never before have glasses been more fashionable – and the nerdier the better. What's more, those looking out from behind lenses are perceived as being more intelligent than the 20/20 mob. Even if you have to dummy up a pair, they will help convey

an impression of smarts.

Steady, Eddie

Thou shalt not fidget. Even if you have to concentrate on maintaining a lack of motion from your elbows downward, you will be rewarded by being viewed as way more calm than you actually are. And for God's sake, uncross those arms.

Smeyes

Yes, it's a made-up word but 'smeyesing' is smiling with only your eyes to give you a glimmer of élan that says, 'I'm meant to be here and am actually enjoying the process.' Here's how to do it from the originator and expert of smeyesing, Tyra Banks of *America's Next Top Model*: 'Squint a little, stick your chin out, make your neck long and then think of something delicious!'

BECOME THE GO-TO GUY

Every office has one. Not only does he sail through every round of staff liquidations unscathed but he also gets promoted faster than those who started years before him. It happens for one of two reasons: either he is schtupping the boss's daughter, or he is doing the following:

The Go-to Guy... TREATS THE COMPANY AS IF HE OWNS IT

This means that those above him are treated like clients and those below like suppliers who help to deliver what his clients want. This view is one of greater personal investment in the job.

The Go-to Guy... SHAVES A DAY OFF EVERY DEADLINE

Sure it may mean longer hours for a short while, but it leaves him with an extra 24-hours to finesse his presentation and give it a polish that his just-made-it competitors lack.

GREATNESS
COMES FROM
THE HEART



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GOLD IN EVERY DROP

Not for Sale to Persons Under the Age of 18

10 things you should never say

To your boss

'Where do I see myself in five years? Making you redundant.' There's a fine line between ambitious and cocky. He/she won't respect your nerve. Let your work do the talking.

To your girlfriend

'Seriously, if we ever break up, I will totally erase that video.' However hot she looked and empowered she felt when you made it, she'll forever be fretting where that video will end up. Besides, nothing says 'trust issues' like 'sex tape'.

To your best mate

'I'm cheating on my partner, but I know you won't say anything because you're a mate, right?' No matter how you justify your actions, it's not cool to force someone else into your grubby charade. If you kiss, don't tell.

To your waiter

'Degustation? Isn't dat where dey put de petrol on de car?' Wrong, for at least three reasons. Firstly, he's heard it a thousand times before. Secondly, he's just doing his job. Thirdly, it wasn't that funny the first time.

To your doctor

'You have got an ice cube's hope in hell of going up *there*, Doc.' Grow up. They're saving your life, not dating you.

To your personal trainer

'I couldn't help but notice that your ass is so tight you could crack walnuts in it. Nice work.' A little bit of sexual harassment, a whole lot of awkward.

To your date

'So Stewie says, "Hello, mother. I come bearing a gift. I'll give you a hint. It's in my diaper and it's not a toaster."' Still quoting cartoons? It's okay for your mates but please, if you're over 21, this will not impress her.

To your idol

'You complete me.' This is probably a once-in-a-lifetime chance and you're doing Jerry Maguire?

To anyone

'Lol.' What's next? Getting a Miley Cyrus ringtone?

To your hairstylist

'Business in the front, party in the back.' There is no such thing as an ironic haircut in 2015.

and... 10 things you should



To your boss

'How could I have done it better?' Volunteering for tasks then asking for feedback will score more points than lack of action due to fear of failure.

To your girlfriend

'Do I need a reason to give you a gift?' Unless you are actually trying to make up for something you did – or are about to do – spontaneity and generosity will always go a long way in romance stakes.

To your best mate

'You're not going to want to hear this, but I think you're doing the wrong thing by cheating on your girlfriend.' Because even though it may make things tense for a while, we have a duty to remind our buddies about the importance of male values such as chivalry, fidelity and trust. What they choose to do after that is up to them.

To your waiter

'We are happy to go with the chef's suggestions.' Not only does the waiter have to do less work, but the chef can send out the best/freshest/most innovative dishes. Everybody wins.

To your doctor

'It's probably nothing, but I felt this lump on my...' Too many men die from treatable conditions they left too late.

To your personal trainer

'Don't take it easy on me, don't listen to my excuses, don't let me wimp out on those reps.' Why pay R300 an hour to coast?

To your date

'So tell me about you.' Because if Calvin Klein really wanted to captivate the female market, he'd call his next scents Empathy, Interest and Curiosity.

To your idol

'Thank you. Your work has given me a great deal of pleasure over the years.' Simple, swift yet sycophantic enough to solicit a positive response.

To anyone

'Much appreciated.' Even when people are just doing their job, a little recognition costs nothing but is worth plenty.

To your hairstylist

'Have you seen *Mad Men*?' Because classic style is always in fashion.

The Go-to Guy...

SPECIALISES

He's made it his business to know everything there is, and more than anyone else in the company, about a certain facet of operations. The boss sees him as a resource that's as niche as it is valuable.

The Go-to Guy...

GETS THINGS DONE WITH MORE EFFICIENCY THAN OTHERS

Because he knows who really makes things happen in a company on a day-to-day basis. Namely, the support staff such as the help desk, accounts and

courier dock. He has made contacts and, come Christmas, sends a token of thanks as he knows these people hold more power than most give them credit for. In a time of crisis his needs are given greater priority because he has a good existing relationship with them.

The Go-to Guy...

VIEWS HIMSELF AS A SERVICE PRODUCT

One that he undersells and over-delivers on.

The Go-to Guy...

CAN KEEP A SECRET

Say no more.

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THE HEALING
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*The one brand that sells more packs in South Africa than any other brand. AC Nielsen (December 2014).

GQ SOUTH AFRICA Subscribe or renew to receive a **EUCERIN** hamper

An end to shaving irritation
Eucerin Men offers a clean,
clear solution for sensitive skin

Sensitive skin is one of the most common skin problems among men, causing dryness and mild to severe razor bumps when you shave. To make matters worse, having stressed or damaged skin leaves it susceptible to bacteria and germs that are found on your razor blade. Often, it's these bacteria that cause skin irritation, uncomfortable bumps and other shaving concerns.

Active silver shaving system

The new **Eucerin Men Active Silver Shaving Gel** and the cooling, alcohol-free **After Shave Balm** contain silver ions, a proven antiseptic, to bring relief to your skin and reduce germs by up to 99 per cent. Added Licochalcone A in the balm helps to soothe after every shave.

Moisture boost

Eucerin Men Deep Moisture Refreshing Care replenishes your skin's moisture, while the **Intense Anti-Age Revitalising Care** cream with Coenzyme Q10 and Hyaluronic acid helps to fight the signs of ageing.

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GO Drive

This month // Harley-Davidson's legacy // Kia Cerato Koup // Volvo XC90 // Citroën Cactus



Power games

The **Mercedes-AMG GT** gets everything right

Words by Dieter Losskarn

When Porsche boss Matthias Müller received the Golden Steering Wheel for the Porsche 911 Targa as the best convertible of 2014, he couldn't resist mentioning his close neighbours: 'The biggest compliment for us is that a Swabian manufacturer is trying to copy our 911.'

Stuttgart's two car-centric suburbs – Zuffenhausen and Sindelfingen – are just about 20 kilometres apart. The latter is the ancestral home of Mercedes-Benz; the former is from where Porsche hails. For decades the two legendary car manufacturers coexisted in a respectable manner. Porsche's 911 was regarded as

untouchable in its class, while the Merc S-Class was always the most popular luxury limousine in the world. But then the established order of things began to fall out of balance. First Mercedes trespassed into Porsche territory with the SLR and SLS. Porsche countered with its S-class competition, the Panamera. >>

But what Mercedes has done now is bordering on motoring blasphemy. It's not 'a copy of the 911' – it's a completely different car – yet it does, however, openly court potential 911 customers. The second car after the SLS to be entirely developed by AMG stands as a direct challenge to the iconic, previously invincible 911. The sportscar-building neighbours can almost hear the distinct sound emitting from the AMG's V8's new power plant.

While the SLS was fired up by a naturally aspirated V8 with 6.3 litres, the AMG GT is powered by a 4.0 litre V8 with two turbochargers, placed in the hot V of the engine block.

The car is based on the same aluminium chassis as the SLS. Ninety-three per cent of the body is aluminium. The GT has a front mid-engined transaxle layout, with a seven-speed auto box positioned at the rear axle, resulting in a low centre of gravity and a wide stance. Both are responsible for optimal roadholding and the power-to-weight ratio is unbeatable in its class.

Standing in front of a hotel in downtown San Francisco, the GT turns heads – even in a city that is truly saturated with amazing automobiles. And it's no wonder: with its long bonnet, it's another classically crafted beauty.

In the morning, I experience the Gran Turismo part of the car, and get a feel of the travel and cruising side of its character. If you don't get goose bumps while starting the engine, you are definitely not into cars. The new V8's sound is enormous. Once again, fantastic work from the AMG sound engineers, especially in Sport, Sport Plus and Race Mode. But the latter will only be activated a little bit later.

On the first piece of open country road, I feel how incredibly fast the GT is, with wholly precise steering, even in bumpier sections. In the twists, I thoroughly enjoy the double-clutch thunderstorm in Sport Plus and the subsequent exhaust fireworks during hard braking. On the next stretch the Merc turns back into a relaxed GT – the perfect combination of comfort and agility.



MERCEDES-AMG GT

POWER 4.0-l V8 bi-turbo; 340kW, 600Nm; 7-speed dual clutch

PERFORMANCE
0-100km/h in 3.8 seconds; Top speed 304km/h

CLAIMED FUEL
9.3 litres/100km

BASE PRICE TBA

If you don't get goose bumps while starting the engine, you are definitely not into cars. The new V8's sound is enormous

The hot laps are nirvana for me.


A bit too fast, and the car goes into one of those wonderful drifts that are easy to control. The acceleration and sound are mind-blowing



In the afternoon it's time for the other side of the GT's character. Location: Laguna Seca ('dry lake' in Spanish), one of the more challenging race tracks in the world, with sharp turns and sudden corkscrew drops. Perfect. An AMG instructor leads the pack on a warm-up loop, explaining the ideal racing line via a radio in the car. I switch the cockpit dial to Race Mode and the fast tourer and pleasant travel companion turns into a dynamic racer. Actually, a racetrack animal. As low as a 911, but almost ten centimetres wider.

The hot laps are nirvana for me. A bit too fast and the car goes into one of those wonderful drifts that are easy to hold and control. The acceleration and sound are mind-blowing. Much too early, the lead car enters the pit lane. This is addictive stuff.

Order bookings for South African buyers opened in February. Several die-hard AMG fans ordered their GT even before they had a chance to sit in it. The GT S Edition 1 will be available in the second quarter of this year, followed a couple of months later by the standard GT. A GT3 racing version is already a done deal, and it would be foolish not to bring out a convertible GT. Pricing will obviously be much closer to the 911 than the SLS.

Usually when Mercedes-AMG CEO Tobias Moers and his team develop a car, a test-drive will show that something or other can be improved. With the GT, this was not the case. In the words of Tobias: 'With the GT we've done everything right.' 



Dynamic Select's most powerful setting: Race in the GT S

A classic twin-dial setup is mated to AMG-spec tech



AMG door sills and track-ready seats round out the cockpit



Fast forward

Tech advances have resulted in significant weight saving and improved efficiencies in these adventure-loving SUVs



Cross over

VOLVO XC60 D4 TURBODIESEL

When Ford sold Volvo to China's Geely Holding Group, it promised to continue supplying engines for another five years. While Volvo engineers used that time to come up with an alternative drivetrain, car sales grow steadily due to the new focus on China: 465 866 vehicles were sold globally last year – a year-on-year increase of nine per cent.

The V8s and V6s have now given way to lighter and smaller four-cylinder engines that deliver better fuel efficiency with an impressive power output. The 2.0-litre turbo diesel comes with 133kW, 400Nm of torque and a system called i-Art that monitors and adapts fuel injection in each of the four cylinders for better performance.

The all-wheel-drive D5 engine has twin turbochargers, while the XC60's front-wheel-drive T6 has a turbocharger as well as a supercharger. Above 3 500rpm, an integrated clutch disengages the supercharger, allowing the turbocharger to take over. The result is an engine that delivers more power at both low and high revs without the turbo lag.

With its new front-end styling, the XC60 is high, wide and handsome. Inside the luxurious cabin there's plenty of headroom, but rear-seat legroom is on the tight side. There's a decent amount of boot space though, and with the seatback down you can double your load area.

As well as airbags and good rear three-quarter visibility, Adaptive Cruise Control,

Lane Departure Warning, Driver Alert Control, Distance Alert, and Blind Spot Information System can all reduce the chances of an accident. Bicycle detection has been added to the collision-avoidance system.

It's a clever car all round, and Volvo has indicated that this is just the start of some improvements. Advanced turbo-energy recovery systems, as used in Formula One racing, could be on the way. – **Craig Tyson**

POWER 2.0-litre 4-cyl turbo-diesel; 133kW and 400Nm
PERFORMANCE 0-100km/h in 8.5 second; Top speed 210km/h
CLAIMED FUEL 4.7 litres/100km
BASE PRICE R538 300

Proud frontrunner

TOYOTA FORTUNER EPIC

With monthly sales of 900 units, the locally produced Toyota Fortuner, based on the Hilux Sport Rider platform, is regarded as South Africa's most-loved SUV. It was introduced to local city streets and dirt roads in 2006 and due to its enormous popularity, Toyota decided to introduce a limited edition

for 2015 – the Epic, with some extra equipment and very attractive dark-grey alloy wheels.

A short drive around the winelands once again showed that it is the ideal affordable family car for going camping and heading into the bush. A perfect all-rounder to play around with in the Richtersveld or in Namibia, it's very pleasant and comfortable on-road, and capable in more serious off-road

conditions. The local 4x4 community also loves the fact that it's proudly produced in South Africa. – **Dieter Losskarn**

POWER 4.0-litre V6; 175kW and 376Nm
PERFORMANCE 0-100km/h in 11.3 seconds; Top speed 172km/h
CLAIMED FUEL 13.0l/100km
BASE PRICE R555 400



Freestyling

CITROËN C4 CACTUS

You'd be forgiven for thinking that there was a shot or three of tequila involved with the design of Citroën's latest creation, the C4 Cactus. We like that the French carmaker had the courage to put what still looks like a concept into production.

Citroën calls it the 'Feel Good' factor, with the all-new car getting some eyebrow-raising design cred in the form of airbump cushioning – designed to absorb minor parking incidents and door scrapes – plastic panelling and crossover styling. It also gets short overhangs, headlights integrated into the front bumper and a weight-saving panoramic glass roof (tinted to upper-end sunglasses spec, which eliminates the need for a sunblind and is a market-first). All those lighter new-age bits and pieces mean the Cactus tips the scales at just 965kg – a full 200kg saving over the C4.

The interior looks like a project from a final-year design student: luggage straps for door handles, a top-box glove compartment, wide sofa-style front seats, a slick seven-inch touchscreen, pop-out rear windows and a roof-mounted passenger airbag (to save

interior space). It gets the latest media, connectivity and satnav tech – hell, there's even a Multicity Connect app to keep you and your desert friend in touch.

Turning the front wheels of the Cactus, which arrives in SA in March, will be just two petrol engine offerings: a naturally aspirated 1.2-litre three cylinder (from the DS3) making 60kW/118Nm, and an all-new force-fed 1.2-litre three pot, pushing 81kW and 205Nm – with either engine paired to a five-speed manual. The Cactus never feels overwhelmed by anything you ask of it. The lack of a rev counter in the slim digital instrument cluster can be a little disconcerting, but that three-cylinder engine has a nice little thrum going for it – meaning you'll definitely know when gear changes are necessary.

Should the rand hold steady, we can expect the entry-level 1.2 naturally breathing Cactus to start at around R225 000.

– **Minesh Bhagaloo**

POWER 1.2-litre 3-cyl; 81kW and 205Nm

PERFORMANCE 0-100km/h in 9.3 seconds;
Top speed 170km/h

CLAIMED FUEL 4.7 litres/100km

BASE PRICE R225 000 (est.)



Korean firecracker

KIA CERATO KOUP 1.6 TURBO GDI



Just when you thought the coupé era was about to be ruined by some I'm-so-confused-three-door creation that sounds like prehistoric mammal, the Koreans brought back that 1.6-litre fun side of why we got into cars in the first place. Not only is the Cerato Koup efficient – thanks to a four-cylinder GDI turbocharged 152kW/265Nm engine, steering the 18" alloy wheels with twin tailpipes roaring from the rear – it's fun to drive. Seat yourself in leather while navigating the 4.3" TFT LCD touchscreen display for that 120bpm track, hit the start/stop button, crack the sunroof, shut that frameless door and enjoy the reason you got a licence.

– **Aiden Steenkamp**



POWER 1.6-litre inline 4-cyl; 152kW and 265Nm

PERFORMANCE 0-100km/h in 7.7 seconds,
Top Speed 224km/h

CLAIMED FUEL 7.2 litres/100km

BASE PRICE R341 995

GLIDE ON

With a slew of upgrades, Harley-Davidson's new range showcases over a century of motorcycle mastery. **Dieter Losskarn** takes the Road Glide for a cruise



Recently, I was invited to the opening of the BMW Motorrad lifestyle centre in Buitengracht Street, Cape Town. Expecting just a new motorcycle dealership, I was surprised to witness a revolution. The shop is the first of its kind and showcases a new direction for BMW motorcycles. The Bavarian bike manufacturer, founded 20 years after Harley-Davidson, is now embracing the modern biker lifestyle with a vengeance.

Harley-Davidson has been doing this for 112 years, with huge success. In actual fact, the American bike builder is charging you for this kind of lifestyle. The bikes are free.

Having also recently inspired Indian to come back from the dead and celebrate its heritage, Harley-Davidson's lifestyle influence is also breathing new life into the Bavarian manufacturer's traditional way of presenting its products. Now, it's about the people riding, not just technology and performance.

All those thoughts are flooding through my petrol-head while I swing H-D's brand-new

Road Glide through the tight twisties of Chapman's Peak Drive. The bike handles nicely; you could almost say lightly. The handlebars are slightly pulled back; the fairing is fixed, not moving with the handlebars, like on the Ultra or Street Glide. It is a cruiser, built for long highways all the way to the horizon and, unlike the Ultra, it appreciates

bends as well. The torque out of the 1 690cc V2 is enormous, no matter which of the six gears is selected.

Since Harley 'Rushmored' their bikes in 2013, not only do they look better, but they also have much better lighting, and the previously awkward side panniers are now surprisingly easy to use. They can even be

HARLEY-DAVIDSON 2015 MODELS

All feature a 1 690cc V2 engine with 64kW and 138Nm



Street Glide Special from R299 995



Ultra Limited Low from R329 995



Road Glide Special from R309 995

The American bike builder charges you for this kind of lifestyle – the bikes are free



opened by the passenger during the ride, with one hand. Before, you would have had to repaint the lost lid. The bigger touring models come with a screen in the cockpit displaying navigation, radio stations or your choice of iPhone music.

The new Ultra Limited Low is about 5cm lower than the previous model, enabling better handling, even if you're not 1.8m tall. The third big tourer is the Street Glide Special, where the fairing is fixed to the handlebars. Having driven all three, my favourite is the Road Glide Special with the set of double headlights, especially in this mesmerising blue colour.

Harley-Davidson can be really proud of what it's achieved over the years – not only by building legendary motorcycles, but also by creating the whole lifestyle that comes with riding on two wheels.



Grab life by two wheels

At the end of last year, BMW's motorcycle division opened its first brand flagship store in the world, Donford Motorrad in Buitengracht Street, Cape Town, a cool R40 million investment. Design-wise, they did a marvellous job. Inside, there's an industrial warehouse feel, with high walls and 2 700m² of space. It presents the Bavarian bikes with their characteristic blue and white in the best possible light. You can buy bikes and clothes here, you can chat with like-minded people in cosy corners, you can have your bike serviced – or have a cup of freshly roasted gourmet coffee from Tribe Coffee Roasting, in a cool café that serves up both great food and a street view. The decor is

petrol-infused as well: glass tops cover tables that are made from engine blocks; in the entrance, a barn-found BMW R26 is leisurely parked. And the handful of stylish boppers that are standing in strategic places are not only for show – BMW will build them for you, turning any old, tired BMW tourer into a chopped, exciting and sexy custom bike for the boulevard. The new place is definitely an enrichment for bikers in the Mother City and beyond. And if you're not into bikes, at least have a cappuccino or a bite there. You won't regret it, promise. But be careful: in an environment like this, you might just get addicted to two wheels.

► Donford Motorrad, 112 Buitengracht Street, Cape Town. bmwmotorrad.co.za





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THIS MONTH
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BY CHRIS McEVOY

GQVoice

HUMOUR

The great Valentine's Day swindle

Match-fixing has nothing on dating, writes **Petros Augusti**

THE DATING GAME IS SO FULL OF

corruption and bribery, and is so endemic and ingrained that no public protector, board of inquiry or constitutional court judge can ever change its sordid ways. It is played out in dark restaurants, hotel lobbies, jewellery shops and boutiques everywhere, with a final match played every year on 14 February. On Valentine's Day, match-fixing is not only actively encouraged, but even questioning the notion of not joining in is frowned upon.

Fealty: thy name is woman! These are not the ravings of a deluded Hamlet who has fluffed his lines. No, this is a far more urgent cry. The whole concept of dating is to establish a pretext of securing the loyalty, love and trust of a person through unsolicited, nefarious and wholly accepted bribery. These are corruption techniques so blatant as to make politicians wince and blush like a lightie caught sword-fighting by his mum for the first time. That sword is a charlatan that will lead you through pubescence, adulthood and old age, conniving to get to the coveted white picket fence. There is no difference between taking a girl out for an expensive dinner, replete with the obligatory flowers, and a politician accepting a Breitling watch in exchange for securing some tender.

A bribe is a gift or an object of value bestowed upon a recipient to induce or influence the action of said person. That sounds very much like dating to me. I'm not saying all women are charlatans, selling their souls for a few dollars more. No, they are the unwitting pawns in the greatest swindle since Oolof the Elder told Goolaf the Not-So Elder, 'Fire not good!' Romance



Our genetic craving for procreation is greater than our fundamental right to fair economics

is nothing more than a con, a flimflam, yet it has one powerful redeeming factor – the game needs to be played and the bribery rules followed for the human species to survive.

I have had my eye on a lady for a little while and have been on a few dates with her. But we have reached stasis, the point where we are both more or less equal in standing. For me to reach the next level I have to start showing her how much I like her through romantic gestures like buying her flowers, sending sushi to her work, maybe purchasing some concert tickets.

I am not a cheap date: I have bought a woman a diamond after two dates. The other day, I bought a girl I like Adidas and Puma tank tops because she attended the same gym, and I thought since she loves the treadmill, she might like to look even sexier. I was only at the nodding-at-her stage, yet I was compelled to do something to win a date – or more accurately, buy a date.

How many times have we seen a gorgeous model with a smile that knocks you out of your socks quicker than a land mine? And how many times have we seen her with a hunk-a-junk of a man, boep spilling out of designer jeans, walking barefoot and with the knowing smirk of a cat that just stole the milk and got away with it? Either he is hung like a donkey or has more cash than an ATM on payday. Now we may think we know women, and that all the ladies enjoy a large lunchbox, but the truth is that we are easily outplayed by a man with a plan.

Love is an illusion, a sham, a hoax, yet we still play by its rules. We all try and earn the big bucks to get the pretty ladies. No manner of bemoaning the system will ever change it; our genetic craving for procreation is greater than our fundamental right to fair economics. We must suspend truth to get at her suspenders.

Now, where can I get some champagne and sushi? It's nearly lunch time. **GQ**



Petros Augusti goes into romance with both eyes and wallet wide open

SEX

Heading into the bush

Our saucy navigator charts some temperamental territory

AFTER BRUNCHING AT A CORNER CAFE

a few months ago, my friend cleared his throat and said, 'I don't know if I ever told you this,' his eyes wrinkled tighter, 'but I really don't know how to eat pussy.' It was as if he looked on the menu and the chef's suggestion was to tell someone what was running through his mind.

Can you blame him? Eating pussy can feel like a really difficult chore: your mouth and nose mired in her musk, your jaw, neck and back sore from exertion and, frankly, if you aren't very good at it you'll come out the cave feeling half the man you spearheaded in as. Women rarely talk to their partners about it, partly because there's nothing quite like the vulnerable state of having your genitals tongued, or the fear of farting, but mostly it's the dreaded stigma attached to the taste and smell of vagina. I think I taste delicious but, like the weather, every vagina is temperamental. They go through dry spells, moist temperatures and dare I say it, red tides.

The only way to learn how to munch this delicacy? Give it the lip service it deserves and ask your girlfriend how she wants her pussy eaten. After you've accumulated all the data, remember what she likes and spit out what she doesn't. It will turn you on knowing you can make someone's body pulsate, and the more you understand how her body works as arousal heightens, you'll feel like a remarkable sexual partner. My best encounters have been so hot that I've needed an oven mitt to change positions, so throw out the rulebook and tackle each experience as they come. Cuntinental breakfast, anyone?

Be a fan of flan

You need to love the vagina and get down with going down. Sex is often pigeonholed into a solely physical act involving flapping genitals and weird smells and sounds – but the steamiest sex happens in the brain. Your thoughts could be all you need to get you both off. Let her feel your excitement to dive face-first between her legs.

The pleasure principle

Up to 85 per cent of a women's pleasure is about yearning. I once had a man tease me by brushing his penis between my legs and telling me what he was going to do to me. I could see the individual atoms making up



My best encounters have been so hot that I've needed an oven mitt to change positions – so throw out the rulebook and tackle each experience as they come

the wall in front of me, it was so orgasmic. The vaginal area is crammed full of nerve endings that run right through the body, so before diving in you need to start by kissing her passionately – the neck, the breasts, the stomach (if she flinches, that might be a sensitive spot). Tease her, kiss right past her vagina while you grip every curve of her body and make your way down to her calves. If you don't know what she wants and she isn't making any sounds, speak up or change positions. We're not mind readers, so improvise and communicate.

Tongue-twister

Repeat after me: my tongue is not a penis, my tongue is not a whip. In pornos, the stars are paid to overact, and it's often the tongue that takes centre stage. Don't flick your tongue fast, trying to make eye contact (if it's good, her back will be arched, chin up to the ceiling) and don't believe the nonsense about 'mapping out the alphabet' – it's distracting and silly. Never actually physically flick the bean, suck, or nibble it, unless she has explicitly requested this.




Lior Phillips

is your guide to the deep, deep south

Clit-bit

Oh, the little man in the canoe! I must accept that you know where the clitoris is, but if not: it's at the top of the vagina, where the labia meet. Some women insist on this little nugget getting all the attention; others prefer gentle, light gestures. Vary your movements with both approach and pressure. Rub with your fingers, circle with your tongue and pay attention to how she is moaning. Never stay on clit alert; the rest of the body is throbbing for you.

Head, shoulders, knees and toes

Have more imagination when it comes to cunnilingus: forget what you know and approach the lair with your entire face. You can burrow with the bridge of your nose, and stroke teasingly with your fingers (slowly). Hell, take that finger and share it with each other like *Lady and the Tramp's* spaghetti. There are thousands of nerve endings in the bum cheeks, so slap and squeeze while you lick. If your lady is saucy, she might enjoy a finger in her anus. Stop cringing: gently inserting your index finger/thumb up to the knuckle is extraordinary for some. Ask your partner if this is okay, and then proceed to explore with slow circular motions. In terms of licking the anus... well, if you're into that then you're too advanced for this piece anyway. Bon appetit. 

BEHAVIOUR

Domestic habits of the single man

Sometimes a messy double life is okay, writes **Chris McEvoy**

HOW CAN PEOPLE TELL IF YOU'RE SINGLE OR TAKEN?

Traditionally, it's the wedding ring that's the giveaway. It's a cliché we've seen played out in movies. Scene: the lonely guy is sitting at the bar counter, cradling his bourbon on the rocks. The sultry, predatory woman spots him, and her eyebrows rise slightly. She's interested. She approaches, but before she makes her move, her eyes flick to his left hand. No ring. Perfect. She strikes...

Or conversely: the predatory man in his best Barney Stinson suit prowls the bar, hungry for prey. He spots the attractive woman, sitting alone at her table. He smiles to himself. Mm, nice. But before he moves in for the kill, he slips the heavy gold band off his ring finger and drops it into his into his top left pocket. This is, of course, all bullshit. This method may have worked half a century ago, but now, thankfully, things have changed. Many married men don't bother with wedding rings, and as we all know, just because you're unmarried doesn't mean that you're single.

With me, it's easy. I literally wear my heart on my sleeve. Yes, literally. If it's dirty, I'm single. Take a number, ladies. After many relationships and singleton phases, I've realised I'm actually two different people. Don't get me wrong – it's not a certifiable condition or anything. But I seem to be very comfortable living two different lifestyles. I didn't realise it until my long-time friend Sarah came to visit, soon after I'd just started dating again. She sat on the couch and gazed around the living room, as if it were an alien landscape.

'Wow,' she breathed in wonder. 'What happened here?'

'Nothing,' I replied quizzically. 'What do you mean?'

'I mean where's all the mess?' she demanded, gesturing at the clean carpet, towards the spotless kitchen. 'Are you expecting someone... *special* tonight?' She smiled and actually winked at me. Sarah never winks. Of course she was right. Apparently, I'm that transparent. And that messy when I'm single. I'm not proud to admit it, but Single Chris practically lives in a completely different apartment that could bring a domestic worker to tears. Strange life forms grow in coffee cups. And making the bed? Don't make me laugh. You've heard the quip, why make the bed




Chris McEvoy is in a different place when he's unattached

when you're just going to mess it up again? Well, I feel the same way about my clothes, the dishes, the floors.

I turn into a lazy slob. I murder my plants. I attract unwanted pets that have their own death sprays. My diet changes dramatically. When dating, I cook up a storm and eat like a king. I make complex, restaurant-quality concoctions from trendy cookbooks, and always serve a salad on the side. When single, I feel I've cooked something when I upgrade the pie I bought at the garage with tomato sauce. As you would guess, grocery shopping changes dramatically. Singleton

shopping is usually depressing: meals for one, the smallest size of everything, and who hasn't complained about how you can't buy just two celery sticks, or a single carrot? With me, it's worse. Multiple cans of baked beans, large packets of chips (each, a meal on its own) and, worst of all, two-minute noodles with chemical seasoning so dodgy, I'm surprised it doesn't glow in the dark. Why do I even buy that crap? I know that after eating it I'll just end up hating myself.

Perhaps I'm just not very good at being single – I've seen friends do it much better than me. But there are positives, like having more time to do the things I really want, like slouching in front of the TV with crumbs all over my chest. And I do get out of the house more often. As a singleton, one is obliged to do the meet-and-greet thing with the rest of humanity from time to time. Because who knows? You might meet someone. And if I'm lucky and it gets to the 'your place or mine?' question, the answer will always be, 'Yours. Definitely yours.' 



Single Chris practically lives in a different apartment that could bring a domestic worker to tears. Strange life forms grow in coffee cups. And making the bed? Don't make me laugh



ONE

MAN

BRAND

Recognise that face? Of course you do. That's because this guy has the uncanny ability to be everywhere at once - on TV, cinema screens, billboards, calendars and these pages; at parties and fashion design studios; in photoshoots and your girlfriend's dreams. And while **Masego 'Maps' Maponyane** has represented a noteworthy portfolio of impressive brands, there's one that's arguably more influential than them all: his own

Words by Jason Alexander Basson.
Photographs by Richard Keppel-Smith



Having walked in step with Maps since the dawn of his increasingly multifaceted career, we've always regarded the man with something close to brotherly love. We remember Maps as he was when he was starting out - not just another young hopeful, but someone



noticeably different. He lacked the cocky self-assuredness of someone pretending to be bigger than they are, and instead seemed to possess an uncharacteristically clear presence of being, and boy did it get him places. Naturally, he had the look too. While he may not claim to have pioneered

this movement, Maps may just have been the first model in South Africa to build a brand on a pair of spectacles. He was determined to create a visual signature for himself – something that would leave a mark. His glasses became just that, but not without a fight. Several agencies turned

him down, saying he was too young or that the 'bespectacled look' just wouldn't work. He was encouraged to work as an extra, but being a wallflower was simply not on the cards for young Maps. 'If I take this on, and take it seriously, I can make it happen', he reminded himself. Years later, Maps >>



Hugo Boss jacket
R6 850. **Burberry**
T-shirt R1 690.
Lacoste chinos
R1 650. **Tom**
Ford spectacles,
model's own (worn
throughout). **Markham**
belt R450. **Lacoste**
sneakers R1 095

Previous:

Tiger of Sweden
blazer R6 899,
trousers R3 799,
shirt R2 899. **Viyella**
bow tie R300. **U-Boat**
watch, model's own
(worn throughout).
Woolworths
belt R380. **Cole**
Haan shoes

continues to politely bulldoze his way through the industry, having forged his very own unique career, seemingly out of nothing. We had the great pleasure of chatting with our younger brother for a thorough education in the mechanics of making and maintaining your own brand, and what to expect from his.

GQ: You're like a self-made celebrity. I suppose the obvious question is this: what is it that you actually do?

Maps Maponyane: [Laughs] I do TV presenting, acting, modelling, writing, fashion design and image consulting. I'm also a voice-over artist and small-business entrepreneur. I have a few projects going on the side, but everything is always

intertwined; all the things I do benefit one another, working together to form the bigger picture. The main things so far, however, have been the modelling, TV presenting and acting. I have had a very keen interest in fashion, which is why I've been slowly crossing over into the consulting and design sphere.

GQ: You mentioned entrepreneurship. Tell us more about that.

MM: I like investing in small startup companies. I've got some fairly big projects in the works, but those are still under wraps for now. I also do a fair amount of sports marketing on the side. In fact, I even have a sports website that I've been working on for many years, which will hopefully be ready and running this year.

GQ: Clearly the apple doesn't fall too far from the tree – your father Marks is something of a soccer legend.

MM: True, but I'm more concerned with sports commentary. I don't see myself playing for any of the big teams.

GQ: So what else?

MM: I'm also starting a new online show – a modern man's guide to everything, where I'll be teaching people how to tie bow ties, put on a suit, tailor a suit, what colours and items are for attending an interview or starting a new job, and all the hottest cars, tech and accessories.

GQ: You're giving GQ a run for its money, then?

MM: Hardly [laughs]. It's more like two-to-five-minute educational webisodes

which serve as a kind of map for the modern gentleman. There's more to it, and a lot of exciting stuff that will follow, but for now that's all I can say.

GQ: I read your bio on Who's Who SA.

MM: I have a bio on Who's Who?

GQ: Of course. The interesting part, however, was reading this: 'Maps is driven by "the bigger picture" with a will to work and is subsequently in constant pursuit of excellence.' What's this bigger picture they speak of?

MM: Who wrote that? [Laughs]

GQ: I thought you did.

MM: Well, it's a very good question. And whoever wrote that hit the nail on the head. The 'bigger picture' is precisely what they mentioned: the pursuit of excellence. There's no specific target as of yet, but rather a process of focusing and refining, on getting the best out of everything without distractions. In everything I do, I simply try to access my broader creative potential and be as innovative as possible in my own way.

GQ: You seem to be quite capable of juggling several things at once without compromising on the quality of the end result. You also seem to attract the public eye, no matter what you do. What's your secret?

MM: If you love what you do and are passionate about it, but are also willing to put in the work, you simply cannot be ignored. Of course you have to push boundaries – both your personal and interpersonal ones – and focus on getting things done and doing them properly. Never settle for mediocrity in anything that you do. You can become the person you want to be, but if what you're putting out into the world is half-assed, you'll only become half the man you have the potential to be. So I suppose the bigger picture is also about creating elevated standards in quality in this country and challenging the way people think.

GQ: We were huge fans of your collaboration with Augustine. How did that come about?

MM: I bumped into Marea and Justine, the women behind the brand, when I was browsing at a market. I bought one of their jackets. I loved the piece, but there were one or two things I thought I would do differently. After chatting to them about it, they noticed that I had an interest and an informed opinion, which is when they asked if I would be keen on collaborating. Naturally I said yes.

GQ: The line is called OCD. Why?

MM: I have OCD, so my natural inclination is to think about utility and what kind of functions a modern man would want from



'I think it's always far more important to be recognised for the quality of the work I do, rather than just the fact that I've done something publicly'

a suit. There were so many exciting nuances to our design.

GQ: Is this collaboration with Augustine going to continue?

MM: We might do it again in the future, but for now I'm sticking to consulting. Brands often ask me about what I think will work in the market. Right now I'm behind the scenes, ghost designing and learning so that one day I can launch a perfected product of my own. I also want to create suits that make you feel like a million dollars without breaking the bank. We still live in a climate with the perception that SA design is inferior, even when the alternative is visibly worse. Right now, SA designers are fighting to change that perception by going for quality and affordability, which is where our market is at the moment. The SA consumer's attitude will eventually change and more people will start investing in local fashion.

GQ: What piqued your interest in the design process and how did you fall in love with suits?

MM: I've always loved design, but I've had a life-long obsession with suits. This comes from my upbringing. When I was six years old, my mom started dragging me to the mall to look at clothes. She'd ask what I thought about certain combinations or styles. At home she even laid my outfits on the bed and gave me tutorials in fit and colour pairing. We even did fashion shows from time to time. Going to the townships on Sundays for church meant that my grandfather would be dressed in a suit. I think that's where my respect for the suit comes from, but also where I began appreciating the importance and intricacy of style. I used to say to my mom, 'I want to wear a suit so I can be a man.' That prompted the 'real man' speech. She'd lecture me about that: 'The suit doesn't >>

Tiger of Sweden
suit R13 999,
shirt R2 899.
Viyella bow tie
R300. **Markham**
belt R450



Tiger of Sweden
double-breasted
blazer R6 899, trousers
R3 599, pocket square
R499. **Burberry**
T-shirt R1 690.

make the man. You have to become a man in order to wear a suit.'

GQ: Do you think it's easy to find love in the fame game?

MM: It's probably one of the biggest cons of my work. I'm a huge romantic, which is really frustrating because it's hard to find someone that doesn't come with preconceived notions about what it means to date someone in the public eye. In my line of work, dating invariably results in some kind of insecurity. I work long hours and am often too tired to be intimate or spend time with a person. That creates a lot of distance. It takes a very special person to understand the pressures I face and to support my lifestyle. It's been a big

challenge for me and so far it has always ended in the same vein of work and travel being the biggest issue.

GQ: What are you working on now?

MM: I have a movie coming out in a couple of month's time. It's by Akin Omotoso and it's called *Tell Me Sweet Something*. It's basically an unconventional love story between a guy who has never read a book in his life, and a prolific writer – the kind of woman who would ordinarily never go for a guy like him. We also just finished *The Real Jozi A-Listers*, which is a parody of celebrity life. We play inflated versions of ourselves. At first a lot of people thought we were being serious, but we're basically making fun of ourselves and the whole

local celeb culture, all in an effort to prompt others in the personality space to not take themselves so seriously. I'm still gunning it with all the online projects I've got going. I'm also continuing with the modelling projects and am currently in the middle of some more acting ventures. In fact, I've been working on a new show for TV, so this is an exciting time for me.

GQ: The SA celebrity scene has changed so drastically in the last few years, particularly in Jo'burg.

MM: It's become younger. It's driven by subculture, but is also fuelled by social media. People really have to be on the pulse of what's happening. There's also a strong entrepreneurial drive. It's all about making things happen, building a brand.

GQ: What do you think this says about young South Africans?

MM: It shows how ambitious the youth is, but on the other hand it also illustrates how easy it is to become a celebrity. In South Africa you can pretty much do nothing and become famous for it, if you play your cards right. It's not really about accomplishment. What we should be clear about is that we aren't really dealing with celebrities, per se. Instead, we have personalities that are in people's faces. What matters most these days, then, is how you make yourself worthy of that attention. Half the people in SA are trying to break new ground, but the other half are just trying to stay relevant. The celeb game is becoming quite a monster in that regard.

GQ: You mentioned the idea of building a brand. What are the most important tools for making that happen?

MM: When it comes to thinking about your following, there's no doubt that social media is a massive concern, but the paradox is that perception can be as big of a hindrance to self-expression as affirmation. It's never been a major concern for me. I suppose at the end of the day it's always nice to find approval for what you have achieved. However, I think it's always far more important to be recognised for the quality of the work I do, rather than just the fact that I've done something publicly. I think people should really love what you do in order for it to be justified in the public sphere. It's almost a responsibility.

GQ: Do you think you've reached your peak?

MM: Right now I still feel like I'm scraping the surface. I'm thankful to all the people that have given me positive feedback, but I'm also grateful for the negative feedback, because it helps me grow. **GQ**

'I used to say to my mom, "I want to wear a suit so I can be a man." That prompted the "real man" speech. She'd lecture me: "The suit doesn't make the man. You have to become a man in order to wear a suit"'

➔ See Maps's full video interview at GQ.co.za

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XPERIA Z3



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DAUNTLESS

AND

DANGEROUS

Shailene Woodley, Hollywood's breakout I-don't-give-a-damn girl, is unapologetically staying herself

Words by Devin Friedman. Photographs by Ben Watts

It's the end of something. Seriously. When we get to the park, I say, 'Sun or no sun?' and she says, 'Sun, absolutely.' So we drag a table out of the shade and sit at it. It's hardly even a park, really. Just a brave little hill of grass next to Manhattan's West Side Highway, bathed in the sounds of down-shifting garbage trucks. On the far side, we can see the boutique-up railroad track known as the High Line. Of course she picked sun. Sun is an essential element of her soul. She is part sunlight, part rainbow, part child actor, part TED talk, part ICM agent. This is the Shailene Woodley who told a reporter she enjoys sunbathing naked to 'give my vagina a little vitamin D.' People went nuts about that; it topped the lists of Crazy Shit that Shailene Woodley Said that seemed to proliferate as 2014 went on.

She collapses into her chair. She is jet-lagged; she's just arrived from Paris. Shailene's been in Europe, mostly doing Airbnb. She finished filming *Insurgent* – the second instalment of the *Divergent* series – in November, and took off. She says it's part of the way she maintains a healthy relationship with Hollywood.

'That's the thing about me in this industry,' she says. 'I do my thing and then

I'm like, "Peace! See you later! I'm going to Europe, where I'm gonna do my own thing!" You know? So I don't really interact.'

Because I don't know if you know about it, but Shailene Woodley is a free spirit. She is 23 years old and a multi-millionaire, and she will tell you straight away that she doesn't have a TV. She doesn't have a TV because she doesn't have a house, an apartment, or any permanent-type living arrangement. She has a ten-year-old Prius with 265 000 kilometres on it. She has a few boxes of clothes labelled 'summer' and 'winter' that she packs in a suitcase. There's also a plastic tub that holds her Vitamix for smoothies and a Crock-Pot slow cooker for her mushroom tea – and she ships that plastic tub wherever she goes.

'I have a cellphone now, but I didn't have one for nine months,' she says.

It's not really a blasting sun, anyway. It's a syrupy mid-autumn sun that makes you nostalgic for the very moment you're in, even before it passes. Right now Shailene is only thirty-seven minutes post-sexy-GQ-photo-shoot, and her face still bears the remnants of high-test makeup. She cocks her head to collect some of that sun, and it lights up her eyes; they acquire a kind of aquatic yellowy green depth. There's a quality to her that's like one of those

hologram trading cards from cereal boxes: look at her one way and she appears normal, almost plain, and then she cocks her head and she doesn't really look normal anymore. So what about it? Doesn't it feel like something's ending? Don't you feel different from a year ago?

'Absolutely,' Shailene says. 'I hope I'm different than I was a year ago. I hope I'm different every day'

But come on, Shailene, that's not what we're talking about. No one's asking you whether most of your cells have performed mitosis in the past twelve months. People first became aware of Shailene Woodley when she blew everyone away as George Clooney's daughter in *The Descendants* (the film about family and feelings and feeling those feelings under the lush golden sunsets of Hawaii). But last year Shailene Woodley became a movie star. The movies *The Fault in Our Stars* (the love story about teens with terminal cancer) and *Divergent* (the new *Hunger Games* franchise, only with Shailene Woodley) were both hugely successful in a mainstream way and were both sold on the value of having Shailene Woodley in the starring role. People started saying, a lot, that Shailene Woodley is on the Jennifer Lawrence track. (When she was asked about this on late-night

'I hope I'm different than I was a year ago. I hope I'm different every day'

television, she said, 'As women, we are constantly told that we need to compare ourselves to a girl in school, to our co-workers, to the images in a magazine. How is the world going to advance if we're always comparing ourselves to others? I admire Jennifer Lawrence, but she's everyone's favourite person to compare me to. Is it because we both have short hair and a vagina?' That part got cut before the show aired. But that's who Shailene Woodley is, long may she fucking remain so.)

And in those movies that changed her from an actress to a movie star, she played a girl who's in high school. Shailene is now 23. That's part of what's ending: she says she got all misty watching *The Fault in Our Stars* because she knew she would never play another 'young adult,' with or without terminal cancer and a rollie bag of oxygen. She may never lose her virginity before the tear-soaked eyes of America again. But wait.

'How many times have you lost your virginity, anyway?' I ask her.

She counts on her hands. 'Three, four. Four. No, wait. Five!'

'Five?'

'Five. *The Secret Life of the American Teenager* [the blockbuster ABC Family show she starred in for five years], *Fault, Divergent*, *White Bird in a Blizzard* [arty film, 2014, by auteur Gregg Araki], *The Spectacular Now* [2013 teenager movie].'

'I guess people like to watch you lose your innocence?'

'Ha ha! Apparently!'

Between Miles Teller and Ansel Elgort, who was the superior person to lose your virginity to?

'Um,' she says, 'both different.'

But who smells better? >>

“That’s actually a hilarious question, because on *Divergent*, Ansel used to wear this really awful-smelling deodorant. I joked, “If you book *Fault in our Stars*, just don’t wear deodorant.” He goes, “Yeah, okay. Fine.” So I wear this deodorant that I make myself, and I gave him some of that. But he just chose not to wear it – he just wore nothing the whole time. So I guess Ansel smells more pheromone-y and Miles smells more – is delicious an appropriate word to say for a man?”

If you’ve seen any of these movies, there’s something strange and hard to place about Shailene Woodley’s presence. She isn’t at all like Jennifer Lawrence, who is kinetic and rhinestone-like. Shailene Woodley is almost heartbreakingly human. She’s like the polar opposite of the Angelina Jolie type. It reduces Shailene’s magical powers to say she’s a girl next door. But Shailene Woodley seems to be able to lug some part of your soul out onto the screen, so that when she experiences something, achieves some success or feels the weight of her own embarrassing humanity (she’s really good at that), it feels like it’s you that’s all happening to. Watching her star in a movie, it’s like your daughter or your sister or the physician’s assistant at your doctor’s office somehow won the lottery and got to star in a movie. We find it kind of flattering to us that she gets to be famous.

We sit quietly for a moment. Another pod of European tourists collapses on the lawn, releasing refugee-level numbers of boutique shopping bags. Shailene does admit, after a while, that the effect of all the press surrounding the release of those movies threatened to change her. To make her feel self-conscious.


“Yeah, the weirdest adjustment was to sort of absorb the labelling the press loves to do,” she says. “Oh, she’s *this* person or she’s *that* person.”

You’re the person, I say, who takes mugwort and makes her own deodorant.

“Yes!” she says. “I’m the hippie who hugs everyone when they meet me!”

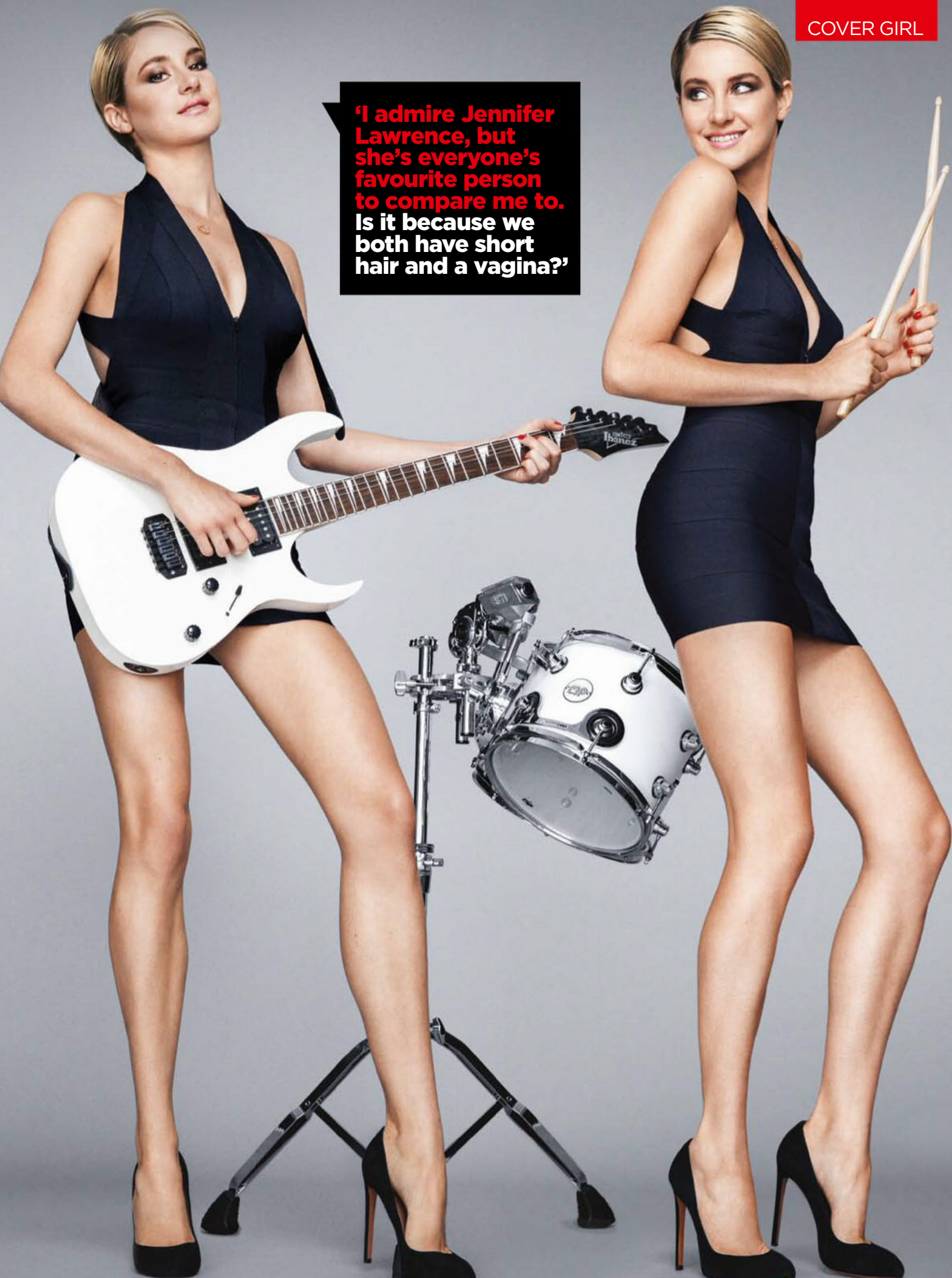
And then I hit on what I was worried about for her. Don’t let people like me ruin you! Don’t let us cynical people make fun of you for waking up in the morning and shouting at the top of your lungs each day, “Good morning! Good morning!” – which is actually a habit of hers. Don’t let us make you dress up like Angelina Jolie all the time!


Instead of that, I say this: “Don’t ever stop being the lady who brushes her teeth with clay.”

Then she looks at me kind of like I’m an idiot. “Oh yeah, of course. I would never give anyone else the power to change my personal virtues.” 



'I admire Jennifer Lawrence, but she's everyone's favourite person to compare me to. Is it because we both have short hair and a vagina?'



A full-body photograph of actor Chris Pratt. He is wearing a bright red long-sleeved button-down shirt with two chest pockets, a dark patterned tie, and black jeans with a large silver belt buckle. He is also wearing a black cowboy hat, which he is holding with his right hand behind his head. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a plain, light gray.

► We always knew he was funny, in a doughy, doofus-y kind of way. But that wasn't the guy we saw in *Guardians of the Galaxy*. This guy was a young Harrison Ford.

Drew Magary goes target shooting, beer drinking, and dove grilling with Hollywood's most surprising new action hero

Photographs by
Ben Watts

Chris Pratt: Your New Best Friend

Ralph Lauren shirt.
Ralph Lauren Black
Label jeans. Stetson
hat. Ralph Lauren
Black Label tie.
The Tie Bar tie bar.
Topman belt

Today you are going to learn all about Chris Pratt, and the biggest thing you'll learn is that he is awesome. That's probably not a shock to you. Chances are you've seen Pratt in a movie or a TV show in recent years and you've thought to yourself, *That guy looks kind of cool. So many actors seem like cocks, but I would hang with that guy!* Your instincts have served you well. Chris Pratt is as advertised. He is not a cock.

The fact that he starred in two of the biggest movies of 2014— *The Lego Movie* and *Guardians of the Galaxy* (both of which featured the word *awesome* in their theme music) — is but the tip of the iceberg. Pratt's awesomeness can be subdivided into no fewer than thirty-five parts. I only spent a day with the guy, and in that day we shot guns, we grilled dead animals, we got mad at asshole drivers, we busted out some really good whisky, we smoked cigars, we hung out at his house, we talked about strippers and compound bows, and he told highly amusing stories about Mickey Rourke being a dick. All of that is awesome. None of that is lame. I don't really want to share Pratt with you, frankly. HANDS OFF I SAW HIM FIRST.

Yep, it's gonna get very journo-porny around here, and I apologise in advance. But Pratt is a one-man industry of awesome. He is a BuzzFeed listicle that your mom forwards to you, in human form. So let's turn this into an awesome Chris Pratt-icle, starting NOW.

1. Chris Pratt will bring all the firearms to the party. I don't have to pack anything for today's man-date in Los Angeles. Pratt's bringing the guns, the ammo and the clay pigeons. Later, he will also insist on paying our grocery tab. He picks me up outside my hotel in his blood red Ford F-150 Raptor pickup. A big kick-ass American FUCK YOU truck. You could fit a province inside it. Where did he get this truck? I'm glad I'm pretending you asked!

2. He bought the truck two weeks ago, on the way back from a bachelor party in Reno. It was a chill bachelor party. A mature, stripper-free bachelor party. 'I was pretty worthless the whole weekend,' he says. He bought the truck and drove it back to LA in time to be on the set of *Parks and Recreation* the next morning. How could Pratt make a \$50 000 impulse purchase just like that?

3. Because Chris Pratt motherfucking owned everyone's motherfucking shit. He starred in the number one and number three highest-grossing movies of 2014: *Guardians of the Galaxy*, in which he surprised everyone by deftly anchoring a new Marvel Studios franchise, and *The Lego Movie*, which surprised everyone by being a razor-sharp, legitimately funny comedy and not a glorified toy commercial. The massive success of *Guardians* was a particular shock, given that Pratt had never headlined a movie before, and given that no one had previously given a crap about *Guardians* (apologies to the comic's three loyal fanboys), and given that Pratt, playing a character named Star-Lord, spent the movie surrounded by a green alien, a homicidal raccoon, and a grunting tree. But he pulled that off, even though...

4. Everyone originally thought he was too fat for the role. I thought it was an

insane idea to cast the fat guy from *Parks and Rec* as the lead of our superhero movie,' says *Guardians of the Galaxy* director James Gunn. 'I didn't really even want to see him.' You can probably guess what happened next: sceptical director brings in fat, unheralded actor for an audition and is BLOWN AWAY, so much so that...

5. Star-Lord was almost fat. Says Gunn: 'I thought, Well, hell, he's overweight, but if that means we have the world's first overweight superhero, I'm okay with it.' Pratt didn't see the problem, either. 'You can make a talking raccoon that looks real,' he told me. 'Why can't I just be fat?'

6. But he lost the weight and got ripped anyway... 'I like the challenge of it.'

7. ...and now he says Fat Pratt is gone for good. 'I'm done with that,' he says. The week after we meet, he'll be hosting the season premiere of *Saturday Night Live*, so he's on a no-starch and no-booze diet. 'I just feel like, if I drink, I want to drink a case of beer and not two beers. Two beers doesn't do anything for me.' Attaboy. When I tell him I had pancakes for breakfast this morning, I see the ghost of Fat Pratt. 'That sounds so goddamn good.'

8. Chris Pratt loves shootin' stuff! When Chris was three, his father, Dan² moved the family to a gold-mining camp (**9. His dad was a gold miner, yo**) in remote Alaska. They lived there for about four years — until Pratt's father realised it was too dangerous for three little kids 'because there's fuckin' bears and shit everywhere,' Chris recalls. The Pratts eventually relocated to Washington State, but Alaska is where Chris's lifelong love of guns began.

We arrive at Angeles Shooting Ranges, on the outskirts of Los Angeles. We're here to blow up some clay pigeons with shotguns, and it's louder than hell. There's

a dude in a LeBron Cavs jersey firing an assault rifle. There are big men teaching tiny women how to fire big-ass handguns. The BANGS and POPS and PINGS come from all directions, as if everyone is shooting at frying pans. It sounds like a *Looney Tunes* shoot-out. We're going to need earplugs. I buy a couple of cheap foamies, and of course one gets stuck in my ear, because God wants to make me look stupid in front of my new BFF. Stupid God.

10. Chris Pratt will pull a jammed earplug out of your ear for you. I ask for some help, and with no hesitation, Pratt digs right into my ear canal and yanks it out. Are we wax brothers now?

'Yeah, we're wax bros,' he says. 'That's just a little bit grosser than blood brothers.' Now we're ready to shoot. Pratt has brought two shotguns for us to use: a single-shot breakaway, his first gun (**11. He bought it with his babysitting money when he was 12**), and a single-barrel pump-action fella he inherited from his uncle — the kind of weapon that makes you feel like Al Capone sticking up a bank vault. In fact...

12. Pratt's got a lotta guns! He's got many more at home, plus another stash up in Washington State, which is where he keeps all his guns that aren't legal in California. 'It's really more just about collecting shit,' he says of his cache of arms. He's not the type to go running out for ammo when a school gets shot up. 'People are scared that they're not gonna be able to shoot anymore or something; I think people are being taken advantage of a little bit, probably.'

13. ...And a compound bow! 'I remember one day I texted him and said, "I'm in your neighbourhood — are you around?"', says *Lego Movie* co-director Chris Miller. 'He happened to be practicing his compound bow in the backyard, and he gave me a lesson, and he had all these targets set up in the back. I want to say that the target was a pretend animal? Like a pretend raccoon or something?' >>

Notes:

1. You could argue this is not awesome.
2. While Pratt's 2014 was undeniably awesome, I must pause here to note that much of it was rendered bittersweet by his father's death in June after a long battle with multiple sclerosis. It was expected, but still early — Dan was 60. 'Nothing grounds you like facing mortality or seeing your father die,' Pratt says. 'It made me realise that the older you get, the more likely it is that someone you care about will be taken away. There's no avoiding it. I got basically all the way till I was 35 until I had suffered my first great loss, so I have it pretty good.'

14. Chris Pratt is an excellent shot. He opens up a cardboard box filled with clay pigeons – round discs the colour of traffic cones and fragile as eggs. In the booth there's a mechanical thrower with a pedal you press with your foot to launch each disc into the air. Pratt steps on the pedal and the clay disc soars up into the air. Pratt gets a bead on it with his old Wonderboy gun, and as it hangs in the sky, he pulls the trigger and the disc is atomised. Bits of neon orange spray in every possible direction, like footage of a galaxy being born. Pratt goes five for five. He can even shoot lefty.

15. Chris Pratt is generous with his wisdom about how to blow shit out of the sky. He hands me the breakaway. 'Put it nice and tight against your cheek,' he says, 'so when you move, you're moving your gun with your body.' Got it. The wood is cold and smooth when I nuzzle against it. I gotta make sure not to shoot Pratt, because lots of people would be mad if I shot Pratt in the face, except for maybe Pratt. He'd probably be like, *It's okay, buddy! You'll do better next time.* He calls me 'buddy' a lot. We're buddies! Maybe we'll go rock climbing. I don't need my regular loser friends anymore.

PULL! And I nail the pigeon, seeing it blow up like a bright orange paintball pellet, raining down clay shards on the scruffy turf below. It smells like camp. It makes me want to hunt real animals. It makes me want to hunt man.

All this gun shooting has gotten me hungry, which is good, because...

16. Chris Pratt's got dead doves in his freezer at home. He shot them a while back, and now we're driving back to his place to grill them up. Pratt also hunts pheasant, deer, elk...

17. But what he really loves is killin' coyotes. He shoots and skins and tans them by hand.

18. Sometimes he cleans coyote skins with his own piss! 'I do a lot of predator hunting, farm varmints, out in Wyoming. Get a farmer that's just got too many and

he's like, 'Fuckin' kill as many as you want.' I used to go on VarmintFinders.com [Note: the link was sadly expired when I tried it] and the farmers would sign up, and the hunters would sign up, and the farmers will give you exclusive access to their land. So we'd go out there, and the marshal would come out and go, 'Hey, what are you guys doing out here?' And I'd be like, 'Hey, fuckin' Jethro Willoughby or whoever said we could.'"

Does your wife like you hunting down Wile E Coyote?

'She' – in case this is news to you, she is Anna Faris, the mega-talented comic actress – 'doesn't like me coyote hunting. She's like, 'You're not gonna eat it.' I'm like, 'Yeah, I guess you're right.' I just like to kill 'em. Coyotes are assholes, and they'll eat your dog.'

We stop at a Safeway grocery store near Pratt's house in the Hollywood Hills. Our shopping list is for dove-roll ingredients: bacon, cream cheese, jalapeños. Once we're done, it's time to head back to the Pratt/Faris abode. We pull up behind a line of cars turning left at a stoplight.

19. He gets road-ragey about traffic, just like you and I do! 'See these cars on the right?' Pratt says. 'They're gonna cut in, and someone's gonna cut in front of me. And I'm gonna want to run 'em over. It's gonna make my fucking blood boil. I don't have it in me to be the dick who cuts in. But I also don't have it in me to not get fucking super aggro at the dude who does it.'

One dude, indeed, does it. It's a guy in a Porsche, because of course it is. And here is where the real Chris Pratt diverges ever so slightly from the friendly Labrador Pratt you see on-screen. He is intense and driven – as driven as any other big-name actor. He just doesn't *seem* intense and driven, which is good, because actors who do (see: Cruise, Tom; also Smith, Will) are annoying. Fat guys from workplace sitcoms don't become action heroes by accident. It takes a healthy amount of talent, and training, and BALLS. Consider this story:

20. Pratt got his *Parks and Rec* job by completely ignoring the scene outline.

This turned out to be wise, because his character was originally based on James Woods's character in *Casino*. **21. (!!!!!!!)** And also:

22. He often doesn't know what scene he's shooting. Says *Parks* co-creator Mike Schur: 'When we have new directors on the show, I'll say, "He's gonna roll into the set about twelve minutes before the scene starts shooting. He'll come not knowing what scene it is. He won't have read his lines, or he'll have read them a few times, like, last night. And when the cameras start rolling, he will do something that is so different and unexpected that you'll be shocked and scared. By the time you're done with the scene, he will have done it eight different ways with eight great performances, and you'll have an embarrassment of riches.'"

23. Pratt's *Parks and Rec* pal Nick Offerman did not think Pratt was awesome when they first met. This was at a pool party at Justin Long's house, well before *Parks* was ever cast. Offerman: 'Chris came over and sat down, and I thought, *Oh great, who's this meathead? Obviously he's very beautiful, but he must be dumb as a post.* And then he proceeded to be perfectly sweet and absolutely sharp as a tack, and I thought, *Oh, I see. You're a superhero.*' Which is precisely what Pratt has become.

24. Pratt and Offerman enjoy harmonising their farts. Offerman: 'We enjoy being gassy animals together, much to our own delight and the abject horror of the rest of the company.'

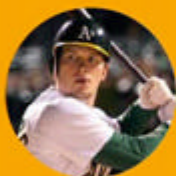
25. Pratt's ready to move on from *Parks*. Season seven will be *Parks*' last, and Pratt says it should be. 'I think there's a collective feeling that people are creatively spent. You kind of run out of ideas. You have to bring in a lot of guest stars and mix it up, and all of a sudden, ideas that might not have been good enough for season two – that's our episode, you know?'

26. Anna Faris! We're at the house now. >>

'Oh, that's where I know him from!'



Andy Dwyer
Parks and Recreation
TV sitcom



Scott Hatteburg
Moneyball
2011



Emmet Brickowski
The Lego Movie
2014



Peter Quill
Guardians of the Galaxy
2014



Owen
Jurassic World
2015

Ralph Lauren
Black Label
T-shirt, jeans.
Bing Bang
necklace.
Miansai, David
Yurman, George
Frost, George
Frost x Michael
Bastian bracelets
(from top). Melet
Mercantile
vintage belt

**Fat guys from
workplace
sitcoms don't
become action
heroes by
accident. It
takes a healthy
amount of
talent, training
and balls**



We pass through the garage to bring the groceries inside, and there's a coyote pelt on the wall. I do not ask if the pelt has been urinated on. Faris greets everyone with kisses. She's thawed out the dead-dove meat so we can get down to business. The couple's two-year-old son, Jack, is also here, screaming out 'I'm happy!' Which is actually a little miracle, because...

27. Jack survived a terrifying premature birth. He was born nine weeks early, spent a month in the NICU, and needed hernia surgery. Now's he's healthy enough to go to preschool and get shushed by jackass celebrities. I'll let Pratt explain:

28. Mickey Rourke once shushed Jack on an airplane. Pratt says this happened when Jack was freaking out on a long trip and Faris was trying desperately to calm him down. 'Like *SHHHH!* Like he's the baby whisperer. Like he's gonna get the baby to stop crying when the baby's mother can't, just by aggressively shushing the baby. Motherfucker. I was like, "Damn, the fuckin' Wrestler shushed my baby."'

29. Pratt makes a mean dove roll. We're in the kitchen now, and Pratt lays out the small fillets of breast meat on the kitchen island, tucks a slice of jalapeño and a dab of cream cheese into each piece, then rolls them up in the bacon. I skewer the rolls, making rows of dense, gamy meat kebabs. We fire up the grill.

30. Pratt says grace on behalf of all the animals he's killed. The dove rolls are now off the flames. Pratt, Faris, and I join hands at the table and bow our heads. 'I'm sorry, but anytime I kill something, before I eat it, I like to say a quick prayer - just 'cause we did waste this guy. Lord, thank you for these wonderful doves. Thank you for this wonderful food and for this company and for our home and our life. We're very grateful to be here and pray for the safety of our men and women overseas and for our families and for [Faris's cousin] and their baby that's coming right now, as we speak. Lord, let her be healthy and let them be happy. Amen.' Dove tastes great. Like pigeon.

31. You get free sketch comedy at the Pratt-family dinner table. Faris notices the moustache stamps on our hands from the gun range and feigns outrage. 'What's that stamp?' she asks me. 'You guys went to a strip club and got prostitutes. Oh, I get it now. I get it.'

'Honey, we shot prostitutes,' Pratt says. 'You'd be proud of us.'

Faris turns to me. 'I'm gonna have to tell your wife that you guys slept with prostitutes.'

'Male prostitutes,' Pratt adds. Thick-mustachioed male prostitutes.'



Ralph Lauren Black Label jacket (part of tuxedo), shirt, jeans, bow tie. Ralph Lauren Fine Watchmaking watch. Polo Ralph Lauren cuff links

Faris breaks kayfabe, and I breathe a sigh of relief. She is a world-class actress, obviously, and for a second there I really did think she was going to call my wife. We clean up, and Faris brings out whisky and cigars.

32. Chris Pratt and Anna Faris have a lot of good whisky. She offers me my pick of many fancy bottles with many tasteful labels. There's a colour of Johnnie Walker I haven't seen before. Johnnie Walker Violet, maybe? 'Let me give you something of stature,' Faris says. Pratt recommends a bottle with a fox on it.

33. The foxy bourbon is delicious. The three of us move out back to the veranda with the whisky and the cigars, like 19th-century robber barons.

Pratt and Faris are both extremely famous now. They're both on successful TV shows. They've both starred in big movies. But out here in the cool night air, the *oh shit they're famous* vibe vaporises, and you're left hanging out with two normal, enjoyable people, two people you would like to hang out with more often. They might be huge stars, but they're just

Chris and Anna to me, gang. Maybe right after I left the house, they *did* go shoot some hookers. But as far as I saw? Normal.

Faris goes up to bed. ('Please write about what a dutiful wife I am,' she requests. Noted.) Pratt and I are left to talk about what he's gonna do now that he's a big swinging dick in these parts.

34. What he really wants to do is direct. 'I'm always biting my tongue,' he says. 'When I'm on set, I kind of wish I could just tell everybody what to do. If I could tell everybody what to do, it would be great, and it would be done faster. And so that's what I'm working toward. I want control. I want control over something. I have to get better at writing, because the stuff that I have written, no one bought. Maybe they'll buy it now, because they can put my name on it, but I'd be in a bad movie that I wrote. So I just want to make sure that I stay working hard. I think I will. I hope I will.'

And he will. He'll keep making big movies and keep getting better, because he's a natural and because...

35. Chris Pratt is awesome. 



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UNLIMITED
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THE IMPOSSIBLE MADE POSSIBLE.



Frank Bourassa ran one of the biggest counterfeit heists in modern history – and got off, scot-free. GQ reports on how to make \$200 million in your garage and get away with it

‘There was no way to stop me from there. I knew I was rich,’ Frank recalled. ‘It was the best day of my life’



Words by Wells Tower

As Frank Bourassa tells it, his own criminal masterpiece hinged on the events of one morning in early December 2009, a morning he says he spent freezing his ass off in a parking lot, staring through binoculars at the Port of Montreal. On the face of it, the shipment he was waiting for was dull stuff: boxes of blank

paper, nothing more. If the customs agents were to crack into the cartons, Frank was praying that mere paper was all they'd see.

Frank's buddies had been surveilling the lot for two days, but he knew a bunch of law-enforcement people might swoop down out of nowhere and snatch him up. Indeed, a day would come when police

would swoop down out of nowhere and snatch him up – but not today.

Before long, a box truck came rumbling out through the exit lane to load up the shipment. Frank had been anticipating this day for nearly two years. It marked the beginning of the grandest, riskiest, most enriching scheme of his life. >>

Everything seemed to be cool. No choppers. No black SUVs. Frank ran a few cautious spy moves just to be sure: on the highway, one of his cars shammed a breakdown, halting traffic behind it and stymieing any would-be tails. His runner sped the box truck to a parking lot outside Montreal, where Frank's team watched it for three days. He then drove the truck to a freight lot in Frank's hometown of Trois-Rivières, a small city of 130 000 on the St Lawrence River.

Frank had a friend check the shipment for bugs before the crew opened the truck. On five wooden pallets sat the future of his criminal enterprise. It was paper of a special kind, made with the recipe used for printing American currency. It bore watermarked images of Andrew Jackson's face and security strips reading 'USA twenty' in minuscule type.

The paper was the essential ingredient for fabricating millions of dollars in high-grade counterfeit bills. Frank welled up with optimism. 'There was no way to stop me from there. I knew I was rich,' Frank recalled. 'It was the best day of my life.' He now had what he needed to become the most prolific counterfeiter in history.

Frank Bourassa is an amused, easygoing man of 44, whose standard answer, when you ask him why he committed this or that felony, is, 'I don't know, I guess for fun.' He is a shortish guy with a faux-hawk hairdo. He has a big belly that came into focus a few years back, during his house arrest for a pot charge. He drives an ageing Mitsubishi. An insane master earner who makes his millions by illegitimate means 'can't just drive around in a Ferrari,' Frank explained. 'You have to have discipline, or otherwise you get caught.'

Frank's criminal ambitions, he tells us, began in the eighth grade when he started a shoplifting ring. 'I started making good money. Hundreds a week, which for a 14-, 15-year-old kid, that's huge!' Around the age of 15, he says, he moved out of his parents' house, quit school, and got his own place. Frank found legal work, mechanicking at a garage. He also found illegal work running stolen cars. 'I had two or three guys who I'd give the orders to, and then they'd go jump them,' Frank said.

In his late twenties, Frank committed what he describes as the most regrettable error of his professional life: he tried to get rich by legitimate means. He opened a factory manufacturing brake pads and shoes. It was moderately successful.

But honest success made him miserable. 'I was working twenty hours a day, not

A smug Bourassa leads police to his van of stashed cash



'It's stupid to try to pass hundred-dollar bills. People look at them all day long, hold it up to the light. Nobody looks twice at a twenty'

sleeping. It was completely crazy,' Frank said. Before long he was diagnosed with an acute stress disorder and prescribed anti-anxiety pills. He sold the business and it led Frank to a crucial resolve: 'I said, "Fuck it. I'll never work legit again."'

And so Frank went back to breaking the law. 'People were making good money smuggling pot at the time, so I said, "Well, I'll give this a shot."' The cannabis trade treated him nicely, until one day in 2006 when the police raided one of his suppliers. Frank was convicted on a drug charge and had to do some time. His sentence was twelve months, of which he was required to serve only three. Canada being Canada, they let him serve it in his living room.

After this brush with the law, Frank began to wonder what he was really doing with his life. 'I realised: the end result is always the same. You do all this work just to get money. So fuck it: why not skip everything and just start making currency?'

Frank began loitering in counterfeiters' chat rooms. He paid a few visits to the US Secret Service's website, which, handily, offers an in-depth illustrated guide to security features. 'It would be difficult, but obviously currency is made by human hands, so it would be physically possible to do,' Frank said. 'But I thought, if I'm going to do this, I'll go big or go home.'

Serious counterfeiters don't spend their money themselves but instead sell in bulk, and the going rate for a good bill was 30 per cent of face value. He reasoned that he should print enough in a single batch to

leave himself set for life. He figured something in the \$200 million range would suffice. By most counterfeiters' standards, printing \$200-plus million isn't going big – it's going insane. In fact, the volume of the operation would prove to be a major blessing in later days, when Frank's fortune would take a turn for the worse.

Frank sketched out a set of best-practice guidelines for his new concern. First, 'don't ever try to pass the money yourself. You want to be as far away as possible from where the money's being spent.' Second, 'don't sell your stuff to anyone who's going to be passing it locally. I knew from the beginning, I needed to sell my bills to Europe or Asia.' Third, resist the temptation to print big bills. 'Do twenties. It's stupid to try to pass hundred-dollar bills anymore. People look at them all day long, hold it up to the light and everything. Nobody looks twice at a twenty.' Fourth, don't cheap out. 'Can you make bills on a \$50 inkjet? Sure, if you want to get busted right away,' said Frank.

Frank drove his paper to a garage outside of town. The place belonged to a farmer who rented it to Frank, no questions asked. Inside, Frank had set up a printshop that would make a desktop counterfeiter swoon with envy. Financed with proceeds from his cannabis trade, the workshop had been outfitted with the help of an expert consultant as Frank had zero knowledge of professional printing before embarking on the caper. But it had come to his attention, he says, that an acquaintance who ran the presses at a printshop in Montreal had done some prison time. This was news for

a man in need of an offset-lithography specialist willing to work outside the law.

The total tab for gear and materials, including a Heidelberg printer and platen presses for embossing, came to roughly \$300 000. This seems like a very serious chunk of change, until you consider that this equipment would turn out bills that Frank intended to sell for \$80 million or so. 'So what's \$300 000? It's nothing!' But acquiring the paper itself had posed a complex nest of problems mere money could not solve.

The recipe for the rag paper US notes are printed on is deceptively simple – 75 per cent cotton and 25 per cent linen – a distinctive composition every American unconsciously knows by feel. Simple though it may be, the recipe is also so widely known that dialing a paper mill and asking for a batch of 75/25 is a speedy way to get raided by the Secret Service. Plus, you'd still need to add a host of security elements: the watermark; the security strip; the red and blue fibres embedded throughout the paper; and so on. But Frank had faith that he could flush out a papermaker stupid or crooked enough to make his recipe. In January 2009, he says, he found the Artoz paper company in Lenzburg, Switzerland. By now, Frank had adopted the nom de plume Jackson Maxwell, of the Keystone Investment and Trading Company, a securities firm whose letterhead bore no street address.

Bourassa told his mark that Keystone was looking to print bond certificates – customised with one or two security measures designed to, um, foil counterfeiters. He persuaded them to sew in a security strip reading, in near microscopic print, 'USA twenty'. ('I told them it was, you know, for a \$20 bond.')

Artoz, he says, also agreed to imprint his paper with a watermark, an image etched into a cylindrical printing drum and pressed into the paper while the pulp is still wet. Frank paid \$15 000, routed under a surrogate's name through a Swiss bank account, to a company in Düren, Germany, that manufactured a drum etched with the likenesses of Andrew Jackson's face. How did he manage that, exactly? 'It was easy,' said Frank. 'To you, he's Andrew Jackson. To some guy in Germany, who the fuck is it? Some guy's face. He doesn't know.'

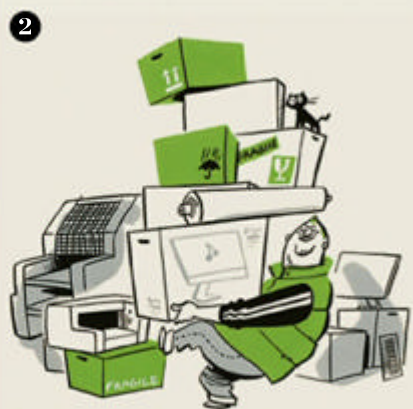
This core insight – that most people have no idea whose faces are on the banknotes of a foreign nation – was the source of Frank's confidence that you can find someone, somewhere, to help him dodge just about any security measure a national treasury can devise. Artoz mailed

IT TAKES MONEY TO MAKE MONEY

Also, it takes the patience of a craftsman and the talents of a bullshit artist. To get his boutique counterfeit operation up and running, Frank Bourassa needed two years, \$300 000 and a clever plan.



For research, Bourassa turned to the government websites that tout the security features of US currency. There he found a handy primer on what he'd need to overcome.



To outfit his secret workshop, Bourassa dropped about \$150 000 on two offset printers – plus thousands on printing plates, inks, embossing presses and more.



To get the perfect paper – a cotton-linen blend – Frank claims he conned a Swiss mill with a story about needing it to print counterfeit-proof bonds. It cost \$50 000.

him sample sheets in the fall of 2009.

'The paper was perfect,' he said. 'The exact same paper the currency is printed on.' He promptly ordered \$50 000's worth and, some time after that, got a call from a friend in the import trade: 'Your shipment's here. It's at the docks. Come pick it up.'

Now that he had the paper, the equipment and the guy to operate it, Frank figured the fabrication of his fortune would be a simple matter of flipping a switch. And sure enough, after weeks of tinkering to get the colour just right, he was moved by what he saw coming off the Heidelberg. 'I'm not an emotional guy, but when I looked at that first perfect sheet, it sort of rang home. After all of those years of dodging the police and running around and chasing money, it really rang home: I'm fucking rich! Right now! Oh yeah!' Frank claims that he was pumping out tens of millions of dollars' worth of flawless twenties a month.

Now Frank's attention shifted to finding somebody to sell them to. He hired a marketing director of sorts, an old friend, who'd dig up customers. To his surprise, guys who were comfortable shipping cocaine by the container load drew the line at phony bills. 'No thanks, and be careful,' was where it ended. Frank then brought on a second customer-outreach man whom we'll call George. For months, Frank did nothing but pack sample boxes – hundreds of thousands, face value – for his guys to take to potential clients. Frank's spirits were flagging. 'I wasn't getting paid. I was just sending out free shit.'

At last Frank's sales agents located some customers who wanted to sell the bills overseas. 'Their first orders were \$10 000,' Frank said. 'I thought, "Jesus Christ, it can't be! I might as well go to McDonald's with \$20 bills and change 'em that way." It was ridiculous.' But soon their appetites grew. Frank says they started taking a million a week apiece. Just like that, Bourassa recouped his \$300 000 investment. Still, at this rate, it would take over a year to unload the full press run – ample time for the cops to get wise to the garage.

George reached out to a man whose name was Éric Lefebvre, who had been unwittingly selling stolen dump trucks and front-end loaders to a man we will call Undercover Cop. One day in May 2012, Lefebvre asked Cop whether he might also be interested in some high-quality counterfeit bills. Cop said that he would indeed be interested. He ordered \$100 000 worth for \$30 000, clean. And abandoning his usual caution, Frank stuffed the bills into a box and carried them, in person, to Lefebvre. Lefebvre ➤

carried the bills to Cop, and Cop was so pleased that he ordered another \$100 000 the next day. So Frank boxed up another 100K, and set off to meet Lefebvre, whom, it turned out, a helicopter had followed.

Just before dawn on 23 May 2012, Frank Bourassa woke up to the sounds of men yelling and heavy fists on the door of his girlfriend's home and his girlfriend in bed beside him, losing it. 'Wake up! Wake up! It's the police!' she cried. It was 5am.

'What do we do? What do we do?' his girlfriend was saying.

'Say nothing,' Frank told her. 'Do nothing. Don't move.'

Frank padded downstairs to get the door. A dozen or so representatives of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police stood on the threshold, along with a pair of agents from the US Secret Service. With Frank handcuffed, the police searched the house and found all sorts of things to get excited about, including hard-drives, printing plates and close to a million dollars in what looked like US twenties.

'They were very, very happy,' Frank recalled. Though as far as the cops knew, the \$949 000 was the extent of the operation. They were still ignorant of the \$200-plus million, stashed in the farmer's garage. 'They were so hyped up. I was thinking, "Jesus Christ, calm down. You got nothing. These are samples. You got samples and you're happy about that?" On the other hand, I knew I was in shit. So I was thinking both at the same time. Mainly I was thinking: shit.'

The video of Bourassa's interrogation makes for solemn viewing. It shows the accused sitting in the corner of a white room, hugging himself against the chill and the prospect of a prison sentence. A RCMP officer plies Frank with questions, and he says little more than 'I'm keeping silent.' Until the officer brings up his girlfriend, who owns the house where the money was found. He tells Frank that she's been arrested. Her house will probably be seized. Here lies Frank's weak spot. His girlfriend is a schoolteacher, an innocent, he proclaims.

'It's all mine,' he tells the cop. 'She knows nothing. All of it's mine.'

Toward the end of the interview, two members of the Secret Service enter the room bearing information he is wholly unprepared to receive. The agents don't mess around with any small talk. They don't threaten or tease him. They simply tell Frank that they are getting ready to extradite him to the US, where he will serve lots and lots of time in a federal penitentiary. 'It's a 20-year felony for

4



Perfecting printing plates to get the colour just right was surprise challenge ('complete pain in the ass') that took weeks of trial and error.

5



Bourassa and his crew would take the test sheets home each night and pick the one sheet that looked the best. The day each guy chose the same image, they quit tinkering.

6



Once the bills were printed, Bourassa ran them through an embossing press, applying texture that would mimic the subtle relief on real notes.

7



To create iridescent foils, Bourassa needed a printing die. He told a foundry that his faux company, MEI, needed '20', 'MEI' and an eagle printed, after which he ground the MEI off.

8



Bourassa generated eleven-digit serial numbers with invoicing software and printed on ink-jet printers using gel ink. The process could produce millions of dollars a month.

each charge,' one agent says. Based on the evidence, Frank could face separate charges for the possession of the counterfeit plates and the bills, and for transferring currency to Lefebvre. Sixty years, worst case. You can almost hear a trapdoor give way in Frank's solar plexus. 'You're crazy,' he murmurs. 'Chill out.'

'This isn't something we chill out about,' the agent replies. 'This is what the Secret Service was started for – counterfeit currency.' Sure, okay, but, Frank asks, how much time was he likely to do?

'The one [case] that I'm familiar with was actually a guy from Montreal,' the agent says. 'He received nine years.'

'Out of these nine years,' Frank asks, 'how long did he do?'

'Down there, federal time, you don't get good time,' the agent says. 'He died in jail.'

Frank's head seems suddenly to put on weight. His left eye begins to twitch. 'Nine years,' he repeats. 'Don't ask for extradition,' he says in a tone of abject hopelessness. 'Please.' The Secret Service agents leave, and Frank Bourassa is sent to jail without bond.

The Crown (the Canadian government's prosecutorial body) declined to comment on the details of Frank's case, so here we're relying on Bourassa's word alone on how he schemed for his freedom, both in and out of court.

As Frank tells it, his salvation from extradition rested on a single card: under Canadian law, the police needed evidence to secure a search warrant. Because their surveillance showed Frank pulling into Lefebvre's carport and not hauling the counterfeit bills himself, Frank's attorney argued that the search conducted was illegal. It was a feeble argument, yet there was some chance that the case could be thrown out of court on dismissed charges. Frank wanted to negotiate: if the Crown suspended his extradition, his lawyer wouldn't file the motion. Not wanting to gamble their case to please the US prosecutors, Frank says the Crown took the offer. So in the end he would not be serving time in an American cell. After six weeks in jail, Frank walked on \$10 000 bail. But investigators were sifting through Frank's hard drive for clues as to how much counterfeit might be out there and where it might be. Frank didn't talk about the money, to anyone. He tried to put it out of his mind.

In the autumn of 2013, after over a year of haggling with Frank's attorney, the Crown presented Frank with its final – and extremely lenient – proposition: three years in prison, of which Frank would likely

serve six months. He rejected the offer. And in December 2013, a year and a half after his arrest, the case of *Crown v François Bourassa* was finally going to trial. Walking with his attorney into court, Frank says he revealed a secret he'd kept hidden from his lawyer all along. 'What if I could give them \$200 million,' he murmured. 'Do you think that would help my case?' Frank says the attorney raised an eyebrow. 'You're telling me you've got \$200 million?'

'Sure!' said Frank. And he would gladly give it up – along with his Heidelberg printer – provided that the Crown would stop trying to seize his girlfriend's house and also give him back his Mitsubishi. He also wanted his jail sentence reduced to the six weeks he'd already served.

The opportunity to remove from circulation \$200 million in counterfeits was hard for the Crown to refuse. They agreed: if he could produce the bills, he would pay a fine of \$1 350 on unrelated drug-possession charges, and one of the biggest counterfeiters in the history of the trade would slip off the hook after a month and a half behind bars. (Éric Lefebvre was sentenced to thirty-one months in prison.)

Here, it's worth noting a tactical irony in Frank's plan: had he not printed such an outrageous amount of money, desperation to unload it might not have forced him to sell some to an undercover cop. But if he'd printed a measlier number of millions, he would have lacked a big chip with which to bargain for his liberty. He would certainly have been jailed alongside Lefebvre. In other words, had Frank not gone big, it could have been quite a long time before he'd have been free to go home.

But the government wouldn't let Frank simply hand over the money and be done with it. Instead, they set a drop date over a month hence, for 31 January, 2014. If they could ferret out the stash before Frank delivered the money, the plea deal would evaporate and the Secret Service would have the evidence to extradite Bourassa.

'After the deal,' Frank claims, 'every morning, [the police were] sitting in front of my house. They were tailing me,

The recipe for the rag paper US notes are printed on is deceptively simple – 75 per cent cotton and 25 per cent linen – a distinctive composition every American unconsciously knows by feel

twenty-four-seven. These guys, all of them were thinking, "If we can find the money before the drop, we can fuck him." So everything I did, everywhere I went, they were watching. Jesus Christ, were they hard at work on me.'

His attorney, Frank says, warned him to be very careful how and when he made arrangements for the drop. Frank called a friend who loaded a box truck with the \$200 million, plus the cheaper Heidelberg press. He left the truck south of town in the parking lot of a hotel where another of Frank's associates worked. And there, for nearly two months, protected by nothing but a padlock, the \$200 million and Frank Bourassa's freedom awaited the 31 January handoff.

When the day finally rolled around, Frank was escorted by six black SUVs to the truck. 'The bomb unit came, the K-9 unit. It was crazy. They set up a whole perimeter there in the parking lot. They made me go open up the truck first to make sure it wasn't going to explode.' He opened the truck. In the back sat the \$200 million, packaged in brown cartons, each a little larger than the size of a shoebox.

Frank was in a jolly mood that morning, but the police – the Secret Service agents in particular – were in notably sour spirits. 'I tried to talk to them,' Frank recalled. 'It seemed to me like a good day for everybody. They got the \$200 million, I got my deal. We should all be feeling good. But they wouldn't talk. They said, "If you've got something to say, say it through your lawyer." There was this pissed-off

ambience to the whole thing,' Frank says his attorney explained to him later that the Secret Service had reason to be cross. Following leads scoured from Frank's computer, they had traced the paper order back to Artoz, the Swiss mill. They had discovered that, based on the size of Frank's paper order, he had not printed \$200 million; he had printed \$250 million. But the plea agreement had already been signed. 'The deal was already done when they figured out that the \$50 million was missing, so there was nothing they could do. So they're pissed. They're as pissed as pissed could be.'


But as Frank sees it, the missing cash of \$50 million (technically \$49 051 000, minus the million or so the cops took from his girlfriend's house) should not be a cause for sore feelings. 'The RCMP did very nice police work,' he said. 'They got \$200 million off the street, and they stopped me from ever, ever doing anything like that again. It's fucking good business!'

These days, Frank Bourassa's life is more honest. He's now pursuing lawful employment, consulting for governments and businesses in fraud-protection tactics, and has hung out his shingle at Mastercounterfeiter.com. He's also selling his Paradigm Shift System™, a life-coaching programme 'so powerful, it can make the Berlin Wall literally look like a white picket fence.' While he did not make the big \$80 million sale, the odd millions Frank shifted before the cops nabbed him left him in comfortable shape. 'People will spend a lifetime working and make 10 per cent of what I have,' Frank says. 'It's good. I'm set. I'm home. I'm out. It's all fun.'

As to the whereabouts of the \$49 million, Frank Bourassa is unforthcoming.

'I don't know,' is what he said when I asked him where it was. 'I guess let's say I sold it all.'

'So that's your story?' I said. 'Before you got busted, you sold all of the missing money? All \$49 million?'

'I don't know,' said the counterfeiter through a grin. 'Maybe I sold it all, and maybe I didn't.' 

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THE ITALIAN JOB

Charlize Theron steals cold, hard cash in a Mini Cooper. Mark Wahlberg helps.



OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Clooney, Pitt and the boys rob Andy Garcia's casinos in suits.

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TIME



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*What's
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COURT *of* APPEAL

Ace your outfit, no matter
what the playing field

PHOTOGRAPHER **Justin Polkey**
CONTRIBUTING FASHION EDITOR
Arthur Malan Murison

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Twelve rules
to reworking
your workout

● **Hugo Boss** blazer R8 395. **Tiger of Sweden** hoodie R2 899. **Nike** at Cross Trainer vest R390. **SuperDry** sweatpants R1 300. **Prada** at Luxottica sunglasses R3 047. **Citizen** at CJR Gift Sales watch R4 500. **Nike** at Cross Trainer gloves R250.

● *Previous:*
Topman blazer R1 800. **Burberry** jacket R8 490. **Nike** at Cross Trainer tights R600. **Louis Vuitton** sunglasses R7 950. **Lacoste** at S Bacher & Co watch R3 750



We're still loving print.
Keep things in the urban
arena with graffiti, micro,
digital and graphic prints

●
Scotch & Soda jersey
R2 600. **Replay**
shorts R1 450.
New Era cap R400.
Prada at Luxottica
sunglasses R2 169.
Lacoste at S Bacher
& Co watch R3 750.
Nike at Cross Trainer
gloves R250



Burberry puffer jacket R8 750.
Tiger of Sweden sweatpants R3 599.
Oakley cap R240.
Timberland at CJR Gift Sales watch R2 550. **Guess** shoes R800

It's all about performance. From leggings to eyewear, go for fashion and function with a heavy dose of utility



G-Star Raw jacket
R3 000. **Reebok** tights
R1 000. **New Era** cap
R400. **Tag Heuer**
sunglasses R4 650, watch
R130 000. **Onitsuka Tiger**
sneakers R1 000



From left: Konstantin wears **SupremeBeing** windbreaker R1 300. **Reebok** vest R350. **Louis Vuitton** sunglasses R10 300.

Azhar wears **Erke** windbreaker R710. **Tiger of Sweden** golfer R1 899. **Fabiani** shorts R800. **New Era** cap R400. **Prada** at Luxottica sunglasses R2 825. **Tag Heuer** watch R37 995. **Fabiani** shoes R1 800

Don't be a hot mess. It's just as important to look the part after a workout, as it is to be balling on the court. Maintain the sporting edge with athletic signifiers. Think number prints, polo shirts, sporty bombers, and athletic shades or watches



From left: Devon wears **Fabiani** blazer R3 300. **Puma** jersey R2 500. **SuperDry** sweatpants R1 300. **Guess** at **SDM** Eyewear sunglasses R1 400. **Skullcandy** headphones R300. **Tommy Hilfiger** at **S Bacher & Co** watch R2 236. **Reebok** sneakers R800

Reyn wears: **G-Star** jacket R3 000, trousers R1 026. **Louis Vuitton** sunglasses R7 950. **Reebok** sneakers R800

Add a dash of prep to your step by updating your activewear with designer sneakers and a luxe blazer or dinner jacket



Carducci blazer
R3 500. Reebok shirt
R350. Nike at Cross
Trainer tights R600.
Mr Price cap R50.
Lacoste at Moscon
Optics sunglasses
R2 300. Boss at
S Bacher & Co watch
R5 657. Fabiani
shoes R1 800

Junior Fashion Editor
Jodi-Lee Ashton
Intern Vikash Gajjar
Groomer Renée de Wit
at Gloss using Bobbi
Brown Models Reyn,
Konstantin, Devon and
Azhar at Boss Models.
RL Bond at Base Models

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THE OFFICE DRESS CODE

Micro management: the little things you need to know when keeping it classic in the workplace

Words by Jason Alexander Basson
Photography by Teri Robberts

Flash doesn't equal cash

Go for a simple design – something that makes use of natural elements. Too much bling or a gimmicky design will make you look like a toddler who's trying too hard.

Suit colours

Your classic suit colours are blue, grey and black. Anything outside of this is too bold for the boardroom, but don't worry –there's still a lot of wriggling room within these three shades.

In business, you work hard so that one day you might become the man you envision. In fashion, you imagine the man you want to become and then you step into his shoes.

Together, the two make the perfect formula for success, adding to a greater picture comprised of image, class, style, sophistication and, of course, know-how. True style is not about big flashy statements – certainly not when it comes to work wear. In the boardroom it's all about measured style and a classic sensibility.

How do we achieve this? Precisely by paying attention to the little details and knowing what to wear when, and when what you're wearing is just a little too much.

First things first – unless you're a CEO, you're not in a position to make bold fashion choices. This will be read as arrogance bordering on vanity. Stick to the classics, but reinvent them in interesting ways. You can certainly advertise that you have good taste, but the key to success here is subtlety.

Now, let's begin with an education in the little things.

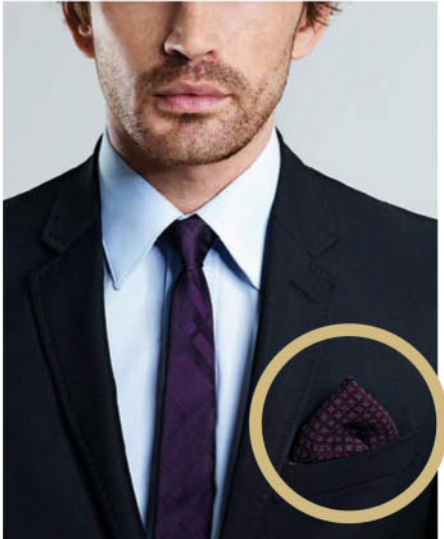
Carducci at Stuttafords suit R4 500.

Fabiani shirt R1 300. **Tom Ford** at SDM Eyewear spectacles R4 875.

Stephen Cole at Stuttafords tie R150. **Dunhill** tie bar R2 195, belt R3 795. **Anton Fabi** shoes R500

SQUARE it off

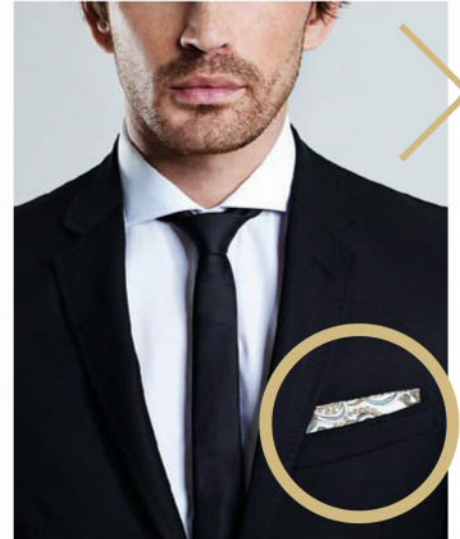
Of all the elements of a suit, this is the one place where experimentation is an absolute necessity. Your pocket square should always be a statement piece, as only a small fraction of it will ever be showing. The key is to choose a colour or print that complements your suit, shirt and tie, but never repeats it, as that's the easiest way to make your suit look cheap. Of course, sometimes no pocket square is better, but that is up to personal taste. For work, it's probably better to avoid any crazy folds or shapes, as well as any futuristic prints or colours. However, don't feel restricted to the standard white linen.



Topman blazer R2 500. **Viyella** at Stuttards shirt R900. **Burberry** tie R2 850. **Gant** pocket square R395



Topman blazer R2 500. **Carducci** shirt R750. **Topman** tie R150. **C-Squared** pocket square R250



Topman blazer R2 500. **Savile Row** at Stuttards shirt R600. **Hugo Boss** tie R1 150. **Fabiani** pocket square R500

WATCH the time

A watch is an essential. We don't care if you're sensitive to electromagnetic frequencies or if it makes you feel claustrophobic. Wearing a watch implies that you are punctual and that you can plan and work towards deadlines. Go for something understated and make sure it's analogue – digital will look sloppy against your suit and implies that you rush things. Quality comes first – remember that.

Hands up

A classic round dial shows power, while a rectangle denotes a high degree of control and proficiency.

1. **Panerai** R75 900
2. **Boss** at S Bacher & Co R3 650
3. **Rado** at the Swatch Group Diamaster Skeleton R50 900
4. **Longines** R33 900
5. **Frederique Constant** at Picot & Moss R50 000
6. **Cartier** R236 000





On or off THE CUFF?

When it comes to dressing your wrists with cufflinks, your basic shirt options are the single or French cuff. Many prefer the single-cuff option, as it's more efficient and allows for a quicker change. However, the French cuff requires the use of cufflinks, which in turn adds a little luxury and style to your look, but also proves that you are willing to take the time and go the extra mile to make yourself that much more presentable.

1. Gant shirt R1 795. Stephen Cole at Stuttafords tie R100. Tag Heuer cuff links R2 495. 2. Fabiani shirt R1 300. C-Squared tie R150. Dunhill cuff links R4 195. 3. Carducci shirt R750. Stephen Cole at Stuttafords tie R100. Dunhill bulldog cuff links R4 395. 4. Viyella shirt R950, tie R100. Burberry cuff links R3 850

Big returns

Avoid 'costume' pieces – look to spend a little more.



TIE in knots

We're done with the efficiency of the air tie. Stop being so cool and get back to the classics. There's a whole world of tie science waiting to be explored, and it doesn't stop with knots. A tie works wonders in a formal environment – again, it shows effort, but can also advertise your

meticulous nature, or better, influence those around you on subtler psychological levels.

Make sure you choose an appropriate colour for the occasion. Wear red when action is required and you're taking charge of a team, but not when you're going up against your boss.

Different prints, widths, knots and collar shapes can do wondrous (or disastrous) things for your body type in terms of lengthening/shortening or broadening/slimming the physique where necessary. Find out from your tailor which styles are best suited for your build.



Tie travel

Get a tie case for the storage and maintenance of your ties. It's also perfect for business trips.

1. Stephen Cole at Stuttafords R100
2. Burberry R2 805
3. Hugo Boss R1 150
4. Stephen Cole at Stuttafords R100
5. Dunhill R1 295
6. Viyella at Stuttafords R100
7. Fabiani R500
8. Tie Stop R250

What a belter

Keep it simple in the office and match the colour of your belt with that of your shoes.



Fabiani R500



Burberry R5 400



Dunhill at Grays R3 795



Gant R1 295



Fabiani R500



Hugo Boss R1 950

BUCKLE down

If, at this stage, you still think it's appropriate to don a canvas belt or some gaudy statement buckle with a business suit, then you should be beaten, severely. The classic way – and the path chosen by any true acolyte of classic style – is a plain leather number with a single-clasp buckle.

It shows that you are neat and respectable, it doesn't pull focus or add unnecessary distraction to your look and it also doesn't mess around with your proportions too much. Exceptionally tall men may consider wider belts or double clasps, as these will help reign in your proportions.

FEET up

Lead by example and keep your best foot in the game, always. Stay away from 'fashion footwear' and go for the classics, but know when it is appropriate to wear them and how best to pair them according to outfit and occasion. For instance, a loafer has no place in a boardroom, but can be the perfect fit for an informal meeting or casual business luncheon.

Another thing to consider is that certain nuances will improve your appearance according to body type. For instance, tall men should avoid pointed toes, as they elongate the leg, while smaller curvaceous men should embrace them, and even consider shoes with an elevated heel to help the illusion. **GO**

Try it out

Monkstraps and formal slippers make great alternatives.



Ted Baker brogues R2 000



Spitz monkstraps R1 095



Call it Spring loafers R500



Trenery oxfords R1 000



The threaded man

GQ gets to know the man behind the cloth, **Siya Beyile**

Words by **Eva Shuman**

The 21-year-old blogger has established himself as a voice in the local fashion landscape, working with top designers to thread his way into one of South Africa's most difficult markets. Here, Siya Beyile tells GQ what he envisages the future of African style and how he plans to stay a firm part of it.



GQ: Who is The Threaded Man?

Siya Beyile: The Threaded Man is an extension of the man I would like to become, and is about men finding their identity in the world today. My parents kept calling me The Threaded Man when I was in high school, saying that I'm not just threaded through the clothes that I wear, but through my actions and the things that I do. I took that concept and made it into a lifestyle that I, along with other men, can aspire to.

GQ: How did you get started?

SB: At the end of matric, I registered at the fashion institute LISOF in Pretoria, and that's when I started the blog. I couldn't draw and sucked at all the creative stuff but I had a real finesse for fashion theory and trends, and I used what I learnt there to start The Threaded Man. I worked with Dion Chang at Flux Trends and, in my opinion, that certified my role as a trend forecaster and trend analyst for men's fashion.

GQ: What's different about your platform?

SB: It's real. Most platforms are too unrealistic and intangible. I feel like I'm the advocate for the guy who's middle class and wants to be stylish. Most bloggers want to focus on international trends and wear fancy designers, and don't look at the demographics of our country. People can't afford expensive clothing; they shop at Mr Price, Edgars and Markham. We want The Threaded Man to be a bridge linking international trends by growing and supporting our local scene. It's the first of its kind – it's independent, and it represents the future of South Africa.

GQ: Where do you see your business going from here?

SB: I see it becoming Africa's largest men's fashion and lifestyle portal. We want to invest in young designers and grow the menswear scene in the country and in Africa, and be a channel to online stores where people can go and buy the look. The Threaded Man is always evolving, but its core will always be the same.

GQ: What's the most important lesson you've learnt in business so far?

SB: You can't take things personally; you have to take your feelings out of business. I've had to learn to allow other parties their visions.

GQ: What's up next on your agenda?

SB: To tell the stories of South African creatives of the future and to take over the world [laughs]. To have Europeans and Americans looking to The Threaded Man and recognise what Africa is doing; we don't need them to certify us. It would also be cool to collaborate with international creatives on the portal. thethreadedman.co.za 



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GQ Groomed

Edited by Paul Sephton

Look and smell better: Pick up the right scent > How to be blonde > Brush up on your hair care

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Get familiar with these fragrance groups that you can switch with the seasons

WOODY AQUATIC

Very much the Mediterranean vibe that so many covet in summer, this smell is like the pine tree-lined coasts of Croatia and Italy. The aquatic spritz adds a freshness to the warm heart of wood.

▶ **Boss Bottled Reloaded Edition**
100ml R1 060

Knock on wood

These aren't described as the manliest scents for nothing. Making fires, hunting, using an axe – what's the common thing in all of them? While we might have grown out of the woods, these fragrances carry hearty, dominant base notes that stick close to your skin, and are best worn in winter when their warm sensuality is inviting rather than overpowering.

WOODY AROMATIC

As common together in a bottle as side-by-side in the wild, aromatics is by far the biggest sub-category within woody notes, with woods such as cedar and sandal blending well with lavender, sage and other grassy accords.

WOODY SPICY

Double down on your dose of warmth, as clove, cinnamon and other spices can sweeten and complexify the heady base of woods.



James Bond 007
Quantum Eon
Productions
125ml R640



Guess Seductive
Homme Blue
100ml R795



Diesel Only
The Brave Wild
75ml R945

Leather

More often used subtly with musky and floral overtones, for some this note is like huffing glue; churning up memories from old car seats and ex's jackets. All slightly bolder, a commonality is the carnal undertone and easy addiction.

More addictive scents

1 OUD

Oud carries an oriental addiction with warm balsamic and woody tones. Often produced as a signature, Versace Oud Noir (100ml R1 090), Tom Ford Oud Tobacco (50ml R2 075) and Jo Malone Oud & Bergamot (100ml R1 700) are good places to start.

2 TONKA BEAN

A spicy and warm ingredient that's reminiscent of vanilla, cloves and cinnamon, tonka bean's intoxicating scent is easy to note in fragrances such as YSL L'Homme (60ml R925).

3 VETIVER

The citrus-tinged grass has fresh, typically masculine attributes that are often described as classically sexy. Find it in Ermenegildo Zegna's Haitian Vetiver (125ml R2 500) or Tom Ford's Grey Vetiver (100ml R1 575).

▶ **Christian Dior**
Cuir Cannage
125ml R2 300



Burberry
Brit Rhythm
100ml R925



Tom Ford
Tuscan Leather
50ml R2 075



Santa Maria
Novella Nostalgia
100ml R1 300

Citrus

You'll be seeing these summer staples out as the leaves change, but owning a few should be essential. Their playful freshness and heavy sillage (the trail it leaves) fill the air in warmer months. Separate yourself with something boutique or brand new.

Decrypting the crocodile code

L.12.12 as a range covers everything from the famous polo shirt to watches and fragrances. Cracking the code is simple. The 'L' stands for Lacoste (we're the world's greatest detectives) while

'1' symbolises the Petit Piqué fabric used and '2' is for the short sleeves. The second '12' is for the number of prototypes they made before settling on the iconic design we know today. Case closed.



Lacoste
Jaune
100ml
R865



Truefitt & Hill
West Indian Lime
100ml R680



L'Occitane
Verbena
50ml R560



Crabtree & Evelyn
Sevillian Neroli
100ml R850

Oriental

Intoxicating and warm, these guys are like movie marathons and tube socks – exclusive to winter.

They typically have amber and musk scents, with intense notes of vanilla and other spices. Heavier notes stick to your skin, while sweeter ones trail, so push the trigger gently.

Balancing act

These three scents can be easily overpowering, but they've been mixed just right in the formulas below.

1 AMBER

The ancient resin comes across most notably in D&G's **The One**. And if Matthew McConaughey finishes with it every day, well, we need not remind you how women react to the man.

Bulgari
Man in Black
100ml R1 290

2 MUSK

The animalistic smell is too often associated with old men who bath in the stuff. In actual fact, it balances a fragrance and adds a touch of warmth. Expertly mixed by Dior, it comes through subtly in popular scents like **Homme Intense**.

3 VANILLA

If too much of this candy is thrown down, you'll dispense more headache than heartbreak, and stamp yourself with sexual ambiguity. CK dosed the right amount of it into **Dark Obsession** for those who like a touch of sweetness.



Dolce & Gabbana
The One
100ml, R1 100



Dior
Homme Intense
100ml, R1 335



Calvin Klein
Dark Obsession
125ml, R910

**GQ&A**

▲ Oyama Dyosiba

One of GQ's Top 10 Best-Dressed Men of the Year for 2014, Oyama Dyosiba, shares his top tips to groom as sharp as you dress.

GQ: How much do you think being well groomed is an extension of being well dressed?

Oyama Dyosiba: Personal grooming is very important – your appearance says a lot about how you feel. If you don't care enough to keep tidy, then you probably don't care about other aspects of your life.

GQ: What's your most indispensable grooming product?

OD: I have used everything under the sky before finally settling for Kiehl's. I use their Moisture Gel, Ultimate Strength Hand Salve, Cross-Terrain All-in-One Refuelling Wash, Ultimate Man Scrub Soap Trio and Superbly Restorative Argan Body Lotion. Their products smell good. Other than that, an electric razor and Shield antiperspirant are indispensable.

GQ: If you could correct one mistake you see in guys for grooming or dressing, what would it be?

OD: Dress according to your body weight and size. Under-arm hair is a big no for me, and I don't get guys with long nails.

GQ: Your style is simple and elegant. Does this mean you have a minimalist grooming regimen?

OD: My routine is all about discipline and efficiency. It includes a very healthy diet and exercise. From a young age I was told that to maintain healthy skin, hair and nails, you need to eat healthy foods.

GQ: What's your signature fragrance?

OD: I'm currently using Diesel – it's not overpowering, being both masculine and soft at the same time.

GQ: How much do appearances and grooming play a role in the boardroom and professional space?

OD: First impressions last. If you look and behave like a highly trained and well-groomed professional, you will win the respect of your valued clients.

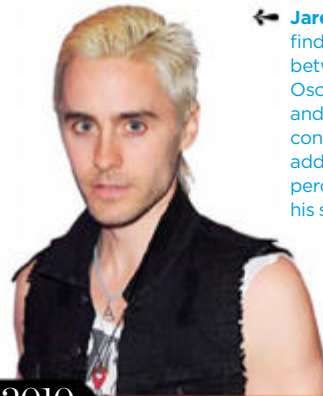
BLONDE AMBITION

Going platinum

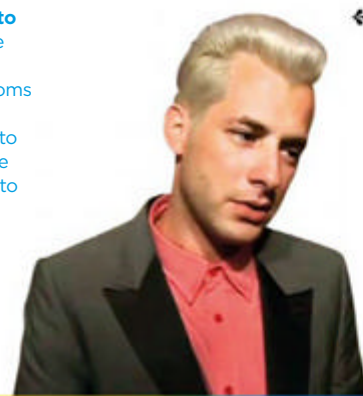
You're either all in or washed out

Ryan Gosling, Mark Ronson, Jared Leto and now Justin Bieber have all had their blonde moments, dedicating their scalps to dye (and not just frosted tips à la Timberlake circa 2000).

Owning the look like Mayweather owns cars is the trick: pride and zero fucks are prerequisites. If you're still on the fence, have a look at these guys and figure out if you're ready to bleach like Bieber.



← **Jared Leto** finds time between Oscars noms and rock concerts to add a little peroxide to his scalp.

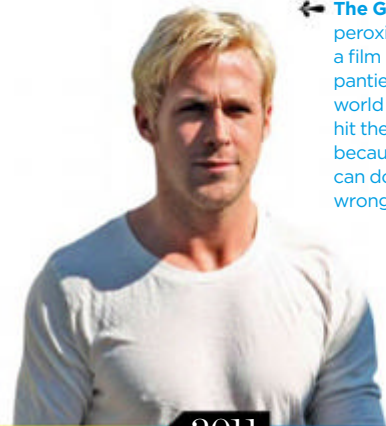


← **Mark Ronson** does Elvis (kind of) with a '50s coif at British GQ's 2010 Men of the Year Awards.

2010



← **Chris Brown** unveils his blonde head in Cannes, France. New look, no new girlfriend.



← **The Gos** peroxides for a film role; pantsies the world over hit the floor, because he can do no wrong, right?

2013

2011



← **Casspar Nyovest** gets bleach happy and turns his beard into a golden chalice.



← **Justin Bieber** goes full Ellen – teen girls swoon and his career dies soon after.

2014



Brush up

Take better care of your hair this year and you'll get more benefits than you think

Jump out the shower, sip coffee, slip on shirt and run your fingers through your hair before running to work. We know the routine, and it's time for an intervention. While some styles are messier and more bedhead, combing or brushing your hair daily won't stop you from scruffing it up again. Brushing redistributes the oil on your head across your hair strands, strengthening them and making sure you don't over- or under-produce sebum. Bristles, from a comb or brush, stimulate blood flow and circulation in the scalp which helps combat dandruff, while also removing impurities from your skin. The end product is a healthier head of hair that looks better no matter which way you style. From pocket combs to moustache brushes, there's something out there to suit any head of hair. Here, our top choices.

CLEAN YOUR BRISTLES

You're going to be sweeping up dead skin cells, excess oil, any hair products you use, and whatever other debris resides in your mop, so clean your brush once a week. Remove any hair from the brush or comb with another brush or comb, rub some shampoo onto it and give it a quick scrub under running water. Done.

WATCH YOUR NECK

Looking after your hair while forgetting about the nape of your neck is like wearing a suit without using a lint roller – theoretically okay, but sloppy in practice. Neglect no more and invest in a body hair trimmer like **Gillette's ProGlide Styler** to keep you clean between barbershop encounters. **R240**



1. Yogi's titanium hair comb R160 2. GHD tail comb R105 3. Yogi's wooden moustache brush R120 4. Yogi's wooden hairbrush R250 5. The Body Shop detangling comb R65 6. Yogi's aluminium moustache comb R60 7. Kent men's oval grooming brush R285 8. Bluebeard's Revenge comb R93

GET THE LOOK

There's something about the ocean water that turns your hair into a pliable masterpiece after a day of sun, salt and swimming. Lush has bottled this goodness to give your locks volume, shine and hold as we soon enter the not-a-fuck-am-I-swimming-in-the-sea season, otherwise known as autumn. **Lush Sea Spray hair mist, R175**



Endless summer

Keep your hair looking post-beach perfect as it gets less balmy outdoors

MOROCCAN OIL MOLDING CREAM

Another matte-look option, this moulding cream adds texture and a wind-swept style to any length hair. It holds an amazing smell, works in easily and gives you Efron-esque abilities to run your hands through your hair as often as you damn well please. **100ml R300**





A SECRET RENDEZVOUS OR THE PARTY OF THE YEAR...

It has been said that one step through the doors of Katy's Palace Bar will take you very, very far away, into a place where the exotic complements the old, where otherworldliness is highlighted by a spectacular backdrop of the Sandton skyline.

Sir James van der Merwe is an eclectic and inviting space, embellished with a worldly cocktail of treasured trinkets from Sir James' travels, with a shot of local flair.

Katy's & Sir James offer an eclectic mix of furnishings and décor, fine art and artefacts from across the globe, everything you need to transform your event and transport your guests to another place and time, or wherever the whim takes you.



Rule 4: There are no quick fixes
You have to become a true exerciser to make an impact on your waistline. Golf is not a workout.

Rule 1: All you need is 20 minutes, five days a week
Break down those lofty goals with a schedule that lets you shed kilos in less time than it takes to watch a full episode of *New Girl*

Rule 12: Give kale a rest
Because watercress has so much more to offer

THE 12 RULES FOR LOOKING (AND FEELING) BETTER IN 2015

Your improvement routine could stand to be improved – here's how

Words by Matt Caputo and Meredith Bryan. Photographs by Adam Voorhes

00:20:00

RULE 1

Exercise for 20 minutes, five days a week

That New Year's resolution you formulated – the one about starting a daily exercise regimen or finally tackling Crossfit? Forget it. Twenty minutes, five days a week is all you need to burn fat and build strength – provided you go hard enough and cut the bullshit between sets. 'Working the largest muscle groups – your

lower body – pushes your metabolism into the fat-burning zone,' says Bob Harper, creator of the new short-attention-span fitness program *Blackfire* (and yes, the tattooed trainer from *The Biggest Loser* featured in GQ a few months ago).

'Leg moves keep you in that zone well after the 20 minutes are up; they create

more muscle mass, which literally eats the fat from your body.' Here's how it works: alternate high-intensity intervals of strength and power moves (think dead lifts or wall-ball squats) in a circuit with total-body cardio, like broad jumps. 'The mix keeps your heart rate up,' Harper says. More importantly, it gets you out of gym faster.

RULE 2

No, really, meditate

Dr Deepak Chopra, mindfulness guru, explains how sitting quietly can make you look better.

'What we think of as "normal" ageing in our society is not really normal. It's the psychopathology of a person who is totally stressed out. My research indicates that meditating slows cell death, lowering your "biological age", which dictates how you look and feel. It allows the body to heal itself. Start with five minutes every morning.'

RULE 3

Get some better moves

Those burpees, tricep dips and close-grip push-ups? They do more harm than good, according to trainer Patrick Murphy. (He's responsible for Mario Lopez's un-dadlike physique.) When done repetitively, these particular exercises (and others you see here)

may eventually cause your head to jut forward, your shoulders to round and your back to hunch. Not to mention 'they inflame the joints and trigger injury cycles,' Murphy says. So what the hell does work? Murphy offers his top alternatives to the moves you should lose.



These are bad
Upright rows

...for the shoulders



These are better
Front raises

RULE 4

Golf is not a workout

Tracy Anderson, celebrity trainer, on why true exercise is essential.

'There are no quick fixes – you have to become an exerciser. A lot of men believe that stop-and-go sports are a workout. Some men think golf is. They're not. Workouts should be focused time when you are strengthening and connecting to your body.'

RULE 5

...for the obliques



These are bad
Russian twists

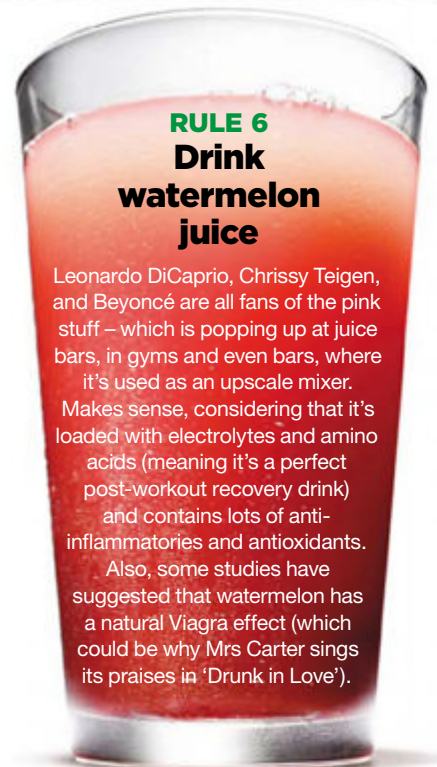


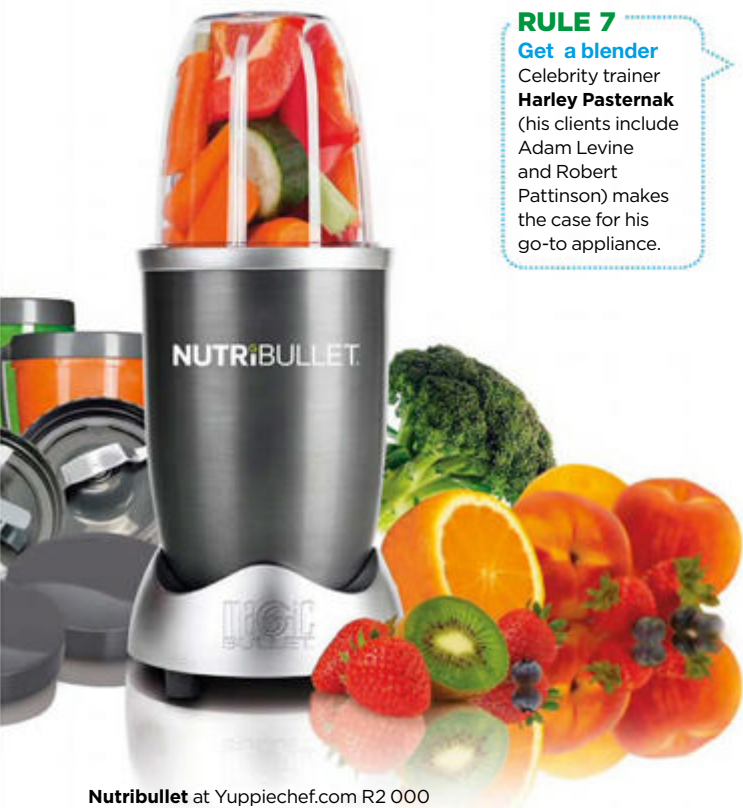
These are better
Hip rotation planks

RULE 6

Drink watermelon juice

Leonardo DiCaprio, Chrissy Teigen, and Beyoncé are all fans of the pink stuff – which is popping up at juice bars, in gyms and even bars, where it's used as an upscale mixer. Makes sense, considering that it's loaded with electrolytes and amino acids (meaning it's a perfect post-workout recovery drink) and contains lots of anti-inflammatories and antioxidants. Also, some studies have suggested that watermelon has a natural Viagra effect (which could be why Mrs Carter sings its praises in 'Drunk in Love').





Nutribullet at Yuppiechef.com R2 000

RULE 7

Get a blender

Celebrity trainer **Harley Pasternak** (his clients include Adam Levine and Robert Pattinson) makes the case for his go-to appliance.

'The number one reason people give for not eating well is: "I don't have the time." But making a smoothie with fruit, vegetables, powdered peanut butter, organic whey, and almond milk takes me 30 to 60 seconds. Blend at least one meal per day – preferably the one that tends to be the least healthy.'

RULE 8

Better moves for burning fat



These are bad
Burpees



These are better
Mountain climbers

RULE 9

Better moves for the triceps



These are bad
Dips on a bench



These are better
Triceps pull-downs

RULE 10

Use better products

Dermatologist **Dr Nicholas Perricone** has a secret ingredient:

'Men should be in the habit of using topical anti-inflammatories. I really love the ingredient DMAE. It gives you a crisp jawline and will cause your eyes to appear wider and your cheekbones to look stronger.'



These are bad
Close-grip push-ups

RULE 11

...for the chest



These are better
Incline push-ups

RULE 12

Watercress is best



In a recent William Paterson University study ranking the nutrient levels of 41 'powerhouse fruits and vegetables', the supposed King Cruciferous, kale, didn't even break the top 10. In the top spot? Watercress, which

has loads of fibre, calcium and protein. Its mildly bitter, peppery flavour makes it ideal for salads or the blender. Blend with lemon, cucumber and celery, or just hit your local juice bar, where it's the new in-demand leafy green. **GO**

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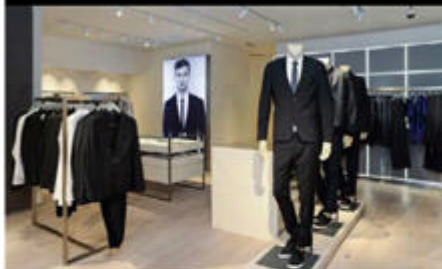
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PHARRELL AND WIDE

Forget music – the man's career is broader than the brim of his hat

Welcome to the world-wide web of Pharrell Williams. Wherever you turn, there he is, wearing a hat of some sort. If you thought you had a dash-dash profession,

think again. So if you're unaware of what Pharrell's been doing with his life – aside from creating massive hits – here's a list of some of the other stuff that's kept him busy.



SCULPTOR

No stranger to sculpture, Pharrell has done a number of comical sculptures with **Murakami** – one piece titled *Simple Things* sold for over \$2 million – and worked with Daniel Arsham on a series modelled around his first keyboard.

FURNITURE DESIGNER

Pharrell designed Perspective Chairs for Domeau & Pérès and the **Tank Chair**, which launched at Art Basel Miami Beach in 2009. He redesigned Kartell's Bourgie Lamp with a human arm forming the base stand.



ARTS JOURNALIST

He's worked for Reserve Channel on their ARTST TLK series. His most talked-about interview was with **Jeff Koons**.



MONCLER
G-STAR RAW

FASHION DESIGNER

After teaming up with Tyson Toussant on Bionic Yarn to create a high-performance eco-thread from reconstituted ocean plastics, Pharrell collaborated with **Adidas**, **G-Star Raw** and **Moncler**. Other big brand collaborations include Bathing Ape, Uniqlo (where he worked closely with Nigo) and Louis Vuitton (where mainstream sport luxe began under the guidance of LVMH boss Bernard Arnault and Marc Jacobs).



AUTHOR

Pharrell: Places and Spaces I've Been, released through Rizzoli, is a synopsis on his achievements in the arts.



PHILANTHROPIST

Pharrell launched **From One Hand to AnOTHER**, an initiative aimed at providing underprivileged children with learning tools. He has auctioned several donated artworks on eBay for the same cause.



ARCHITECT

He teamed up with architect Chad Oppenheim to design the **Pharrell Williams Resource Center** in his hometown of Virginia Beach, California.



BRAND DIRECTOR

For his personal clothing brand, **Billionaire Boys Club**, Pharrell collaborated with contemporary popular artist Michael Kagan. He worked with **Comme des Garçons** on the bottle design for a new unisex fragrance, titled **Girl**.



ART COLLECTOR

Pharrell is an avid collector of the works of the New York-based artist **KAWS**, with whom he has also collaborated.

ENTREPRENEUR

In 2012 he founded **IamOTHER**, which serves as an umbrella corp for his ventures, and a support network for artists whose work he endorses. It's the hub through which he manages his textile company, clothing line and record label. **GO**
– JAB

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